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SKM to hold daily marches to Parliament during winter session



NSA Ajit Doval meets counterparts from Tajikistan, Uzbekistan



Domestic air passenger traffic grew by 24-25% in October, says ICRA

**England meets New** Zealand in T20 World Cup semifinal today

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#### J&K hospitals get faulty ventilators

J&K's Health and Medical **Education Department found** itself in the dock after details obtained under the RTI Act suggested that at least 165 "faulty" ventilators were supplied to the Union Territory's hospitals last year with PM CARES fund. **NEWS** ▶ PAGE 12



**OPPORTUNITIES** PAGE 5

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Bharatiya Janata Party

(BJP) and Congress traded

charges on Tuesday, a day af-

ter fresh revelations by

French investigative portal

Mediapart indicated that

kickbacks of at least €7.5 mil-

lion were paid in the Rafale

deal between 2007 and

The BJP said the Indian

### Why is MHA tasked to monitor foreign funds for NGOs, asks SC

It is to safeguard national security, says govt. as pleas challenge changes to FCRA

There is an element of national

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the government why the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has been tasked to keep an eye on the inflow and subsequent outflow of foreign funds to NGOs under the foreign contributions regulations law.

"Why has the whole operation been brought under the Ministry of Home Affairs and not under the finance department?," Justice A.M. Khanwilkar, heading a threejudge Bench, asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta.

The question was posed

National Congress should be

renamed "I Need Commis-

sion" and alleged that the

failed negotiations for the

aircraft, when the Congress

was in power, was because

of the latter's dissatisfaction

er hand, accused the Naren-

dra Modi government of a

"cover up" in the scam and

shying away from registering

The Congress, on the oth-

Congress, BJP trade charges

after new report on Rafale

with the "cut".

security, integrity of the nation involved here. Why should someone sitting in some foreign country pay? Every transaction is watched by the MHA, from the very beginning... Money has come to fund naxal activities during the hearing of petitions challenging the amend-

ments to the Foreign Contributions Regulations law in 2020. The petitions argued that the amendments severely restricted the use of foreign funds by NGOs for

their activities and transfer

an FIR even 36 months after

evidence emerged on mid-

dleman Sushen Gupta's role

At a press conference,

Congress spokesperson Pa-

wan Khera said the govern-

ment is busy "burying the

black melting pot of corrup-

tion, kickbacks and collu-

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 10

in the deal.

to other philanthropic organisations within country.

**IB** inputs

Mr. Mehta said Intelligence Bureau (IB) inputs have shown that foreign funds entering India were used to fund activities that destabilise national peace and secur-

The inputs even indicated that the money was used to train naxals.

"There is an element of national security, integrity of the nation involved here. Why should someone sitting in some foreign country pay... Every transaction is watched by the Ministry of Home Affairs, from the very beginning... Money has come to fund naxal activities," Mr. Mehta responded to the court's query.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 10

### 'Monitoring Chinese assets in Indian Ocean'

DINAKAR PERI

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh said the Navy was monitoring the Chinese naval and maritime assets deployed in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) for any activities "inimical to our interests."

In an exclusive interview to The Hindu on the sidelines of the Goa Maritime Conclave (GMC), Admiral

Singh said the logistics deals and foundational agreements signed by India have helped the Navy achieve 'Reach and Sustenance'.

The third edition of GMC 2021, being hosted by the Indian Navy, has the participation of Navy Chiefs and heads of maritime forces from 12 Indian Ocean nations.

FULL INTERVIEW ▶ PAGE 11

### Rain lets up, but woes of Chennai continue

HC cracks the whip over inundation



Bounteous yield: Residents fishing in Korattur Lake that overflowed on Tuesday. • M. VEDHAN

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

Chennai had some respite from the rain on Tuesday when inundation cleared up in a few areas. But people were stranded and in need of help at other places where the stagnant water was yet to be drained. Residents are approaching the next couple of days with fear as heavy rain has been forecast.

**HC** warning

The Madras High Court warned the Chennai Corporation that it would take up a suo motu public interest litigation petition on the travails of residents due to waterlogging, if the situation did not improve by Friday. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin said action would be taken against the contractors implementing Smart City.

In the 24 hours till 8 a.m.

on Tuesday, Chennai recorded 3.2 cm of rain. The weather office has issued a red alert in Chennai for Wednesday and Thursday as the low-pressure area that had formed on Monday is likely to turn into a de-

pression.

The government announced a holiday for schools and colleges in Chennai, Kancheepuram, Tiruvallur, Chengalpattu, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, and Mayiladuthurai on November 10 and 11. A holiday has been declared for schools and colleges in Pudukottai, Perambalur, Ariyalur, Madurai, Dindigul and Virudhunagar districts on November 10. Schools in Tiruchi and Ramanathapuram will be closed on November 10. The toll in the rain has risen to five and over 500 huts have been damaged.

### U.K. includes Covaxin to its list of vaccines

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE NEW DELHI

Starting with November 22, Indian travellers fully vaccinated with Bharat Biotech's Covaxin will be able to travel to the U.K. without the requirement of mandatory self-isolation, British High Commissioner Alex Ellis said on Tuesday.

announcement came soon after Foreign Secretary of the U.K. Elizabeth Truss said that her country has "expanded" the list of recognised vaccines for "inbound travel" indicating that Covaxin is part of the revised list.

"From 4 a.m. on Monday, 22 November, the government will recognise vaccines on the World Organisation's Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL). As a result, Sinovac, Sinopharm Beijing, and Covaxin will be added to our list of approved vaccines for inbound travel, benefiting more fully vaccinated people from countries such as the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia and India," announced a travel update from the Government of the United Kingdom.

New Delhi had been demanding recognition of India-made vaccines with senior officials of the British government.

**CONTINUED ON ▶** PAGE 10

### $_+$ Angry over losing job, driver kills DU teacher's wife

NEW DELHI

Deputy Commissioner of Police (North) Sagar Singh Kalsi said the accused has been identified as Rakesh, 31, a resident of Sant Nagar. who worked as a taxi driver. The victim, 32-year-old Pinki, was found dead in a flat on the fourth floor of a building in Sant Nagar.

constable posted at the Burari police station saw Rakesh "roaming around nervously" around 7 p.m. on Monday. On being questioned, he allegedly told the constable that he had killed his sister-in-law. A police team reached the flat and found Pinki's body lying on the bed. A murder case was registered.

During interrogation, Rakesh told the police that he knew the professor, Virender Kumar, for the past three years and considered him his elder brother. Prof. Kumar had given Rakesh a car to drive as a taxi and also offered his family a room to stay on the top floor of the building.

to Pinky in February this wife due to which they had to move out of the building. Rakesh also lost his job, the police said. Rakesh blamed fessor's residence in a drun-Pinki to ensure that she was the police.

Pinki's family had subin August this year.

STAFF REPORTER

The wite of a Delhi University assistant professor was allegedly killed by a former employee who wanted to take revenge on her for losing his job, the police said on Tuesday.

The police said that a

Prof. Kumar got married year. She started having fights with Rakesh and his Pinki for his condition. On Monday, he went to the proken state and strangled his wife. He then electrocuted dead, Rakesh allegedly told

mitted a police complaint regarding a threat to her life

### Punjab Advocate General removed as Channi bows to Sidhu's demand

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Bowing to pressure from State Congress president Navjot Singh Sidhu, the Punjab Government led by Charanjit Singh Channi on Tuesday rekey precondition of Mr. Sidhu for resuming his duties as the Punjab Congress Committee chief, even as he withdr-ew his resignation last week.

In an attempt to present a united face amid the ongoing moved A.P.S. Deol as Advo- crises in the party, Mr. Chan- The Cabinet has accepted his have already forwarded the Iqbal Preet Singh Sahota and Mr. Deol had exchanged

joint press conference in the State capital and announced that the resignation of Mr. Deol has been accepted among other Cabinet decisions.

"The Advocate General had resigned a few days ago.

the Cabinet meeting.

the resignation to the Governor and tomorrow we will appoint a new AG," said Mr. Channi, after presiding over

"As far as the appointment of new DGP is concerned, we cate General. The move was a ni and Mr. Sidhu addressed a (AG) resignation. We will send names to the Centre," the Advocate General A.P.S. Deol. sharp words. Mr. Deol had ac-

Chief Minister said.

Mr. Sidhu, who had on September 28 quit from his post without assigning any reasons, had strong reservations over the appointments of Director General of Police

The decision of removing the Advocate General is being seen as an attempt to placate Mr. Sidhu, who has been at attacking his own Government

on public platforms.

cused Mr. Sidhu of spreading misinformation for selfish political gain ahead of the Assembly election in Punjab. Mr. Sidhu had hit back at Mr. Deol, alleging that "earnest Recently, Mr. Sidhu and inaction" in the cases related to sacrilege and drugs was



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ties in controlling the vector-

borne disease, many cases are reported every day and

hospital beds are being oc-

The Delhi Government's

counsel said the authorities

are taking necessary steps to

check dengue cases in the

The petition sought a di-

rection to the authorities to

control the disease in the

surrounding area of her resi-

dence and to conduct "regu-

lar fogging in the area, door-

to-door awareness cam-

paign, form teams to inspect

dengue larvae on the pre-

mises/area and to impose

penalty for violation and is-

sue dengue helpline num-

cupied fast.

HC seeks Govt's response to

plea on controlling dengue

Authorities get a week's time to submit status reports

A municipal worker

Delhi. ■ FILE PHOTO

fumigating an area in

slaught of the disease.

suffered from dengue, said

the area is facing an on-

the inaction of the authori-

The plea said that due to

### 550 teams to control open burning: Rai

Govt. to increase tankers to 400 for sprinkling drive; IIT Bombay team studying impact of smog tower

STAFF REPORTER

As the city's air continued to be toxic, a team from IIT Bombay is studying the impact of the smog tower fitted

There is more than 80% reduction in the particulate matter, a chief pollutant, that enters and leaves the ciency of the filters; it will take time to know the actual

pal Rai said on Tuesday that the Delhi Government will execute a five-point plan, including a campaign against open burning from Thursday, to reduce air pollution.



The smog tower at Baba Kharak Singh Marg in Delhi. • FILE РНОТО

Control Committee; North,

East, South Delhi Municipal Corporations; Revenue, Development, Irrigation and Flood Control Departments; Delhi Development Authority; Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC); and Cantonment Board. They will crack down on incidents of open burning of waste," Mr. Rai said

The Minister said these Government bodies have a total of 550 teams, of which 304 teams will work during the day and the remaining 246 will patrol at night.

He also said that directions have been issued to the departments to implement the phase two of the antidust campaign, which will begin on November 12 and end on December 12.

About the water sprinkling drive, Mr. Rai said at present, the exercise is being carried by the Public Works Department. "The fight will be intensified with the three corporations, Cantonment Board and DSIIDC pitching in to take the number of tankers deployed to over 400. This will provide immediate relief from the pollution to an extent," he

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on

Tuesday asked the Delhi Go-

vernment and the North Del-

hi Municipal Corporation to

respond to a plea seeking

steps to control the rising

dengue cases through regu-

lar fogging, forming inspec-

tion teams to check growth

of mosquito larvae, and im-

penalties

Justice Rekha Palli grant-

ed a week's time to the auth-

orities to submit their status

reports in the case while

posting it for further hearing

Kumar, a resident of Model

Town in north Delhi, who

The petitioner, Ananva

on November 18.

posing

violations.

The Minister also said that spraying of bio-decomposer in the entire area of 4,000 acres will be completed by November 20.

The smog tower, a pilot project, was inaugurated by Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on August 23. The 24metre-high structure has 40 big fans and 5,000 filters. The fans suck in air which will be cleaned as it passes through the filters.

### EDMC bans firewood, coal at eateries to curb air pollution

Will increase costs, complain owners of restaurants

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

rants under its jurisdiction.

The civic body in an order said that to curb air pollution, restaurants and eateries have been directed to make use of compressed natural gas (CNG), piped natural gas (PNG) or wood charcoal. "Tandoors and grills must be operated on the premises and all the eateries must install an emission control system. Firewood and coal are prohibited and action will be taken against violators," an EDMC official

Restaurant owners, however, are unhappy with the

The owner of a restaurant



feasible in terms of cost".

"Most of my customers prefer food cooked in a coalbased clay oven and if I cannot use it, my business will be affected. Another factor is cost. I would invest in a CNG or PNG-based oven if it was affordable. The average cost of a medium-sized LPG cylinder is more than

Another restaurant owner from the area said he has clay oven for four years".

oven is neither economical nor does it give a smokey flavour to the food. Wood charcoal is also an ineffective option and if this ban is to curb air pollution, then wood charcoal should have been prohibited," he said, adding this ban will not help cut down on pollution because there are larger problems which are yet to be attended to.

EDMC Commissioner Vikas Anand said the ban on firewood and coal "was not new" and that it had been "implemented last year".

"There is some logic behind this move and many

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Delhi in-charge and Environment Minister Gopal Rai on Tuesday said that the BJP is busy doing politics over Chhath Puja, while AAP's Ministers and MLAs have taken charge of preparations for the festival and are visit ing ghats.

STAFF REPORTER

Mr. Rai inspected the preparations at Bhalswa lake and said that facilities from tents to CCTV cameras - have been provided at the site. MLA Atishi inspected several Chhath ghats, including Giri Nagar and Tilak Khand.

"Our only wish is to help the people of Delhi, of Purvanchal to celebrate Chhath without obstacles. Amidst the enthusiasm and the preparations, I would al-

Delhi, of Purvanchal to celebrate Chhath Puja without obstacles. I urge the people to adhere to **COVID-19 guidelines** 

Ready for holy dip: Preparations in full swing for Chhath Puja celebrations at Dwarka in Delhi

BJP playing politics over Chhath,

AAP busy with preparations: Rai

CM trying to shirk responsibility of Yamuna cleanliness: Tiwari

Our only wish is to

help the people of

GOPAL RAI

so like to urge the people to exercise caution and adhere to COVID-19 guidelines. The role of the BJP is to impose its politics, while the responsibility of AAP is to help conduct the puja. So, they're doing their part and we are

doing ours," Mr. Rai said. Meanwhile, north-east Delhi BJP MP Manoj Tiwari accused Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal of trying to shirk his responsibility for

the cleanliness of the Yamu-

na and blame the Haryana — Government for increased ammonia levels.

Mr. Tiwari visited the Najafgarh drain on Tuesday. "I am here to expose the fact that the Yamuna falls prey to pollution not because of water from Haryana but because the Delhi Government did nothing to improve its situation over the past seven years," he said at a point where water from the Najafgarh drain was falling into

the river. "The Delhi Government has not only been misleading citizens but also the honourable Supreme Court about the efforts to clean the river. The CM is now disrespecting the Purvanchali people by trying to hold them and the Chhath festival responsible for the polluted Ya-

### City's air quality dips to 'severe' level again

Stubble burning, slow local winds major reasons

STAFF REPORTER

The air quality in the Capital deteriorated to the 'severe' category again on Tuesday from the 'very poor' level, a day earlier.

The AQI (air quality index) has been 'severe' for four out of five days after Deepavali.

Delhi's air quality entered the 'severe' level for the first time this winter on Friday with an AQI of 462. The AQI was 437 on Saturday, 428 on Sunday, 390 on Monday, and 404 on Tuesday, as per the Central Pollution Control Board's 4 p.m. bulletin, which is an average of the past 24 hours and considered the day's AQI.

Several other NCR cities, including Faridabad, Noida and Ghaziabad, and towns in north India such as Meerut, Baghpat, Hapur, and

Capital reports 33 new

COVID-19 deaths in the last

24 hours for the 17th day and

the total number of fatalities

bulletin released by the Delhi

Thirty-three new cases were

infections, no deaths

The city reported no

stood at 25,091, said a

Government on Tuesday.

reported, taking the total

Kejriwal gives ₹3 lakh to young athlete

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal

cheque for ₹3 lakh to a young athlete, Lokesh Kumar, after learning about his financial

difficulties. Mr. Kejriwal learnt

on Tuesday handed over a

cases to 14,40,176.

Ballabgarh too witnessed 'severe' level of air pollution on Tuesday.

Stubble burning and slowing down of local winds were the major reasons for Tuesday's toxic air quality.

The contribution of stubble burning in neighbouring States to PM2.5 in Delhi was 27% on Tuesday and the number of active fires in the region was 3,476, according to the Centre-run monitoring agency SAFAR (System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research).

Gufran Beig, founder project director, SAFAR, said, "From today afternoon, the local wind speed has declined, so dispersion of pollutants also slowed down. However, the impact of stubble burning continued to remain the same due to high-effective fire counts. AQI is likely to fluctuate between the higher end of the 'very poor' and 'severe' category in the next two days if the fire counts continue to remain high."

Corporation (EDMC) on Tuesday announced a ban on the use of coal and firewood in clay ovens (tandoors) and grills at restau-

in Shahdara said this is "not



₹1,800," he said.

restaurants have moved towards other fuel-based options. We are only imple-

menting the rules that have been directed to us by authorities," Mr. Anand

### 'Wish she had told me about the threats earlier'

Acid survivor's husband says accused had taken her to his room on false pretext

NEW DELHI

A 26-year-old woman is battling for life at a hospital, days after she was attacked with acid by a man, Montu, whose advances she refused. The victim's husband wished she had told him that the man was threatening her.

Rakesh\*, 30, who works at a private company in Bawana, said that he received a call at 4.30 p.m. on November 3 that his wife had been attacked. It took him 15 minutes to reach his residence

in Pooth Khurd where he got to know that Montu had tied his wife's hands and threw acid on her.

Mr. Rakesh, who hails from Bihar, had come to Delhi years ago and had been living in Badli. He got married to Pinki\* in 2011 and the couple were living with their three children.

"We came to know about Montu about a year and a half ago as he lived in the neighbourhood. When I got to know that he had been making advances at my wife,

we left Badli and moved to Bawana three months ago," Mr. Rakesh said After shifting, Mr. Rakesh

said that he saw Montu there a few times but didn't know that he had taken a room nearby. "About a month ago, I spotted him near my house and I asked him why he had come. He said he had come to meet the children. I told him to leave and never come back," he said.

told Pinki that he had proof of Mr. Rakesh's infidelity and false pretext. "She told me in the hospital that he had taken her to his room on this false pretext and asked her to leave me and marry him. She told me that Montu had threatened her previously

changed to protect the identity of the acid attack victim)

### Funds under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan poorly utilised: plea

HC seeks response of Delhi Government

STAFF REPORTER

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday asked the Delhi Government to respond to a plea seeking utilisation of funds under the Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) towards the socio-economic development of people belonging to the Scheduled Caste community.

A Bench of Chief Justice D.N. Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh gave the direction on a petition filed by Harnam Singh, who claims to be a social activist.

Mr. Singh, in his petition, said that the SCSP, which was introduced as part of the Sixth Five Year Plan in 1980, envisages "channelising a minimum flow of the outlays and benefits from all sectors of development in the annual plans of States/UTs and Central Ministries in proportion to the Scheduled Caste population of the State/UT

concerned". He contended that there is poor utilisation of funds allocated under the SCSP by the

authorities, which violates several rights guaranteed to the members of the Scheduled Caste community of Delhi under Articles 14, 15, 16, 21, 21A, 37, 38, 39, 41, 46 and 47 of the Constitution. "Only a miniscule fraction

of the allocated amount is spent by the State Government on the welfare of the Scheduled Castes in complete contravention of the 'Revised Guidelines' published by the then Planning Commission...," the plea

The plea said that in Delhi, the population of Scheduled Castes was 16.9% of the total population. He further said that a collective 17.92% of the budget outlay was spent on the welfare of SCs, STs, Other Backward Classes and minorities in 2020-2021.

He also said that the Delhi Government has not provided the latest and relevant information/data regarding the SCSP annual plan on its website.

The High Court will hear the case again on January 11.



Speaking at his farewell reference, Justice Nath said, "Courts are overburdened with long pending cases. Unfortunately, the perception of a common man is to blame the court for delay in

"Much is said about the courts going on vacations, comparing it with school vacations. I can say with full conviction that this public image is not correct," Justice Nath said, adding that the pendency is there in spite of "huge efforts" by courts and

"The reasons for delay are many but are not really attributable to the courts. All I can say is, the court needs to take some steps to project

that an "image change" was

necessary.

disposal of cases."

lawyers.



this hard and good work that is being put in place by engaging an appropriate machinery. I feel some image change would be useful," Justice Nath said.

'Tunday Kababi' ruling

At the event, which was streamed live on YouTube through Delhi High Court's official account, Chief Justice D.N. Patel said Justice Nath will forever be remembered for his eminence and excellence as a judge of the High Court. "He shall be in our hearts as a member of the fa-Chief Justice Patel

In December 2017, Justice

Nath ended the legal battle over ownership of the name 'Tunday Kababi' after he ruled that the name belongs exclusively to Mohammad Usman, the grandson of Haji Murad Ali 'Tunday' in Lucknow.

In June 2019, a Bench headed by Justice Nath took serious exception to video footages of cops dragging and assaulting a 15-year-old boy and his father in broad daylight in north-west Delhi's Mukherjee Nagar, describing it an evidence of "police brutality".

The Bench had then called for an independent report on the incident from an officer of the rank of Joint Commissioner within a week.

In May this year, Justice Nath had ruled that the Delhi Government had no power to indefinitely postpone the collection of annual charges and development fees by private unaided schools as it would unreasonably restrict their functioning.

### Opposition persistent on reduction of VAT on fuel

Delhi's VAT is highest in country: BJP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Opposition on Tuesday continued to exert pressure on the Delhi Government to slash fuel prices through a reduction in Value Added Tax (VAT).

While BJP MLAs staged a sit-in outside Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's house for the second consecutive day, the Congress demonstrated outside the Secretariat.

BJP MLAs gathered outside the CM's residence on Tuesday afternoon, demanding relief for people. Vijender Gupta, Mohan Singh Bisht, Omprakash Sharma, Jitendra Mahajan, Anil Bajpai, Abhay Verma and Ajay Mahawar participated in the sit-in.

Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly, sought to remind the CM that after winning the 2015 Assembly elections, he had promised that the VAT in Delhi would be the lowest in the next five years, but the opposite had happened.

muna," he added.

"Today the Delhi Government is charging the highest VAT on petrol and diesel in the country. We are reminding CM Kejriwal of his promise," Mr. Bidhuri said.

The Delhi Congress held a protest outside the Delhi Secretariat, demanding a reduction in fuel VAT. It said that despite many State Governments, including Punjab, reducing the VAT on petroleum products following a nominal reduction on excise duty by the Centre, the Delhi Government had not followed suit.

Delhi Congress chief Ch. Anil Kumar said, "In the last seven years, the Delhi Government has collected over ₹25,000 crore on VAT from petroleum products, but has spent hardly on Delhiites. Mr. Kejriwal often claims that 'he is the son of Delhi', and this is an apt opportunity for him to prove his 'Delhi' credentials, and provide relief to the people by reducing the oil prices."

### NEW DELHI Dr. Ranbir Singh on Tuesday asked various Government departments to establish voter awareness forums for electors for the latest roll is lower than last year.

#### about 15-year-old Lokesh's woes on social media and offered him help within three days, the Government said. EDMC schools to have **English-medium sections**

East Delhi Municipal

Corporation Mayor Shyam Sunder Aggarwal on Tuesday said that all schools under the civic body's jurisdiction will be upgraded with English-medium learning sections and will be called "Nigam Pratibha Vidvalava". Of

the 354 schools, 230 schools

will open English-medium

sections from Classes I to V.

#### Raise voter awareness, says Delhi CEO

Delhi's Chief Electoral Officer the ongoing special summary revision, 2022. The count of Dr. Singh said the claims and objections regarding the draft would be accepted from November 1 to November 30.



with 5,000 filters.

tower. But this is just the effiimpact of the tower at a distance away, a Delhi Government official said.

Environment Minister Go-

"This anti-open burning campaign will be run for a month. This is a joint drive involving the Delhi Pollution

"been using an LPG-based "An LPG-based clay The East Delhi Municipal

took her to his room on a

(Names have

'Perception of courts going on

vacation like schools incorrect'

#### and said that he would throw acid on her face if she didn't accept," Mr. Rakesh said. "I wish she had told me about these threats earlier," On November 3, Montu

#### Timings

DELHI WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10 RISE 06:40 SET 17:31 RISE 12:22 SET 22:56 THURSDAY, NOV. 11 <u>RISE 06</u>:41 SET 17:30

RISE 13:10 SET 00:00 FRIDAY, NOV. 12 RISE 06:41 SET 17:30

RISE 13:49 SET 00:00 **Delhi Weather** 

Delhi City

Safdarjang **Delhi Palam Today** 29°C A dry weather to continue. Shallow fog and mist will occur during cool morning.

Day will be comfortable but **Delhi Palam Tomorrow** 28°C The weather wil be dry.Moderate pollution level to continue A cool and misty

morning turns comfortable day with mainly clear sky. © Copyright Skymet Weather 2019 All rights reserved

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### Gehlot likely to reduce VAT on petrol, diesel

Rajasthan is charging highest tax on fuel, says BJP

MOHAMMED IOBAL

After urging Prime Minister Narendra Modi to further slash the excise duty on fuel, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Tuesday said the State Government would reduce the value added tax (VAT) on petrol and diesel to provide relief to the people. The scope for extending the relief was being examined, Mr. Gehlot said.

"When all States have taken action to reduce the fuel prices, we will have to follow suit...We will hold a meeting to take a decision on the reduction of VAT and make an announcement," Mr. Gehlot said at a public meeting during the 'Prashasan Gaon Ke Sang' (administration with villages) campaign in Jodhpur.

Mr. Gehlot was being pressured to reduce fuel prices after the Congress-

ruled Punjab cut down the price of petrol by ₹10 per litre and diesel by ₹5 per litre and claimed in an advertisement that its fuel prices were lower than those in Delhi, Haryana and Rajasthan. The Opposition BJP took up the issue and targeted the State Government for its stand.

Poonia writes to Sonia

BJP State president Satish Poonia even wrote to Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Tuesday, requesting her to instruct Mr. Gehlot to announce VAT reduction in the interest of people. The BJP also said that the State Government was charging the highest VAT on fuel in the country.

Mr. Gehlot had earlier said that the VAT collection of the States had automatically reduced in a proportionate manner after the Centre's decision to cut the

excise duty on petrol by ₹5 per litre and on diesel by ₹10 per litre. He has been pitching for a slash in the additional excise duty, special excise duty and cess on fuel.

Several BJP-ruled States have reduced VAT rates after the Centre's move.

In a letter addressed to the Prime Minister on Monday, Mr. Gehlot had said if the Centre further reduced the excise duty by ₹10 on petrol and ₹15 on diesel, then the VAT would automatically reduce by ₹3.40 on petrol and ₹3.90 on diesel. As a result, Rajasthan was ready to bear a revenue loss of ₹3,500 crore, he said.

The Chief Minister also said that the Centre had reduced the States' share in the excise duty on fuel after 2016 and the States were not getting any share from the additional or special excise duty charged by the Centre.

### Param Bir created 'bad image' for police, CID tells court

Dept. seeks remand of two junior officers in extortion case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A court here on Tuesday remanded two police officers in the custody of the Maharashtra Criminal Investigation Department (CID) in a case of alleged extortion in which former Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh is one of the accused.

Mr. Singh created a "bad image" for the Mumbai Police, Special Public Prosecutor Shekhar Jagtap told the court while seeking the remand of the arrested officers.

The CID has also sought a non-bailable warrant against Mr. Singh in the case, and the court is likely to pass an order on the plea on

"The notorious approach of Param Bir Singh, for ages, has created bad image of the Mumbai Police and others," said Mr. Jagtap.

The courts have already issued warrants against Mr. Singh in two other cases of extortion, one of them registered in Mumbai and anoth-

er in neighbouring Thane. Police Inspectors Nandkumar Gopale and Asha Korke, previously posted with the Mumbai Crime Branch, were produced on Tuesday before Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate R.M. Nerlikar in an extortion case registered at the Marine Drive police station here.

Sent to custody

Mr. Gopale is currently posted at the Khandala police training centre while Ms. Korke is with the Naigaon local arms unit.

The judge sent them to seven days' custody of the CID after hearing the arguments. The two were arrested on Monday based on the complaint filed by real estate developer Shyamsunder Agrawal on July 22.

Seeking their custody, the CID said they had played active role in the crime and it wanted to investigate their connection with the other accused and their financial transactions. The money that was extorted from the complainant is yet to be recovered, the CID said, adding that it wanted to confront some witnesses with the accused.

Advocate Aniket Nikam, appearing for Mr. Gopale, opposed the remand plea, saying the accused had cooperated with the probe and appeared before the investigators four times. The FIR was registered in April for the offence allegedly committed in March and what was the CID doing for four months, he asked, pointing out that no chargesheet has been filed yet.

### Centre moves SC on Delhi ration scheme

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Centre has moved the Supreme Court against a Delhi High Court decision clearing the way for the Delhi government's doorstep delivery of ration

A Bench led by Justice L. Nageswara Rao on Tuesday adjourned the hearing to November 12.

A Bench of Justices Vipin Sanghi and Jasmeet Singh of the High Court had said that the Delhi Government should first issue communication to each of the fair price shop holders, informing them of the particulars of the ration cardholders who have opted to receive their rations at

their doorstep. "Only thereafter, the rations, to the extent that they are being supplied to such beneficiaries, need not be supplied to the fair price shop holders," the Bench had said.

### Shillong Sikhs set precondition for talks

Meghalaya Government wants to shift them out of prime location to the outskirts

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Harijan Panchayat Committee (HPC) representing the largely Dalit Sikh residents of a prime location in Meghalaya capital Shillong has set a precondition for talks with the State Government.

The residents of Them Iew Mawlong, known as the Harijan Colony or the Punjabi Lane, have been facing eviction following a conflict with some locals in 2018.

Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma had a few days ago said the Government was open to holding talks with the stakeholders. The HPC responded by asking the Government to first recognise the existence and the presence of the settlers.

In a letter to the CM, HPC secretary Gurjit Singh appreciated the call for talks but said the residents facing eviction also need a formal agenda-based invitation from the Government to break the ice. "The residents of the colony never received an invitation from the highlevel committee. On the contrary, we were constantly given veiled threats of forcible eviction," Mr. Singh said.

He trashed the claims of the CM and Deputy CM Prestone Tynsong that the committee had never received any representation or objection from them.

'Disclose agreement'

Mr. Singh also criticised the Government for not disclosing the contents of the tripartite agreement among the Government, the acting Syiem (king-like chieftain) of Mylliem and the Shillong Municipal Board. The Government had in October claimed that it had taken possession of the colony land after paying a premium of ₹2 crore to the Syiem, the original owner of the land.

The HPC claims that some 350 Sikh and Punjab-origin families have been living in the colony since their forefathers were gifted the land by the then Syiem 200 years ago. "What is so sacrosanct in the agreement that it is not being made available even after filing of RTI applications?" Mr. Singh asked.

### Dalit youth's death triggers a row in Kanniyakumari

His relatives refuse to receive the body

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KANNIYAKUMARI

The death of a Dalit youth has caused a controversy in Kanniyakumari after his relatives alleged foul play and refused to receive the body for the second day on

The police insisted that the youth had ended his life, but his relatives maintained that he was killed because he was in a love with a caste Hindu girl.

S. Sureshkumar, of Thovalai, was seen last on Monday in a garden near Kattuputhur, the native village of the girl.

He was taken to a private hospital and then to the Government Medical College Hospital, Asaripallam, where he died.

'He was attacked'

His relatives said the girl's family did not approve of their relationship and lodged a complaint with the Boothapandi police station. While Sureshkumar's family

appeared for an inquiry, he did not turn up. When searched, he was found in an unconscious state. His brother Suman Ananath had said in a complaint that there were injuries in Sureshkumar's neck and legs.

"He was attacked and then forced to

drink poison," he said. "He was vexed because their love affair could not end in marriage. When his relatives suspected foul play, we decided to conduct the post-mortem in their presence. The post-mortem report says he has consumed poison," said Kannivakumari SP V. Badri Narayanan.

He said the police would consider all the facts highlighted by Sureshkumar's family while investigating the matter further.

(Assistance for those with suicidal tendency is available at the State's health helpline 104 or Sneha's suicide prevention helpline 044-24640050.)



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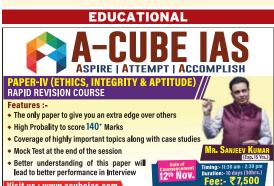




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### **ENTERPRISE CONNECT**

Kent Launches 'Kent Zoom Vacuum Cleaner<sup>i</sup>

This festive season calls for more time for your loved ones! So. it's about time to switch to a smarter way of ensuring that your living space is dirt-free in no time. With the onset of Diwali KENT takes the worries of cleaning your home away with the launch of "KENT Zoom Vacuum Cleaner". The biggest USP of this futuristic and ahead of its time product is that it is cordless, hoseless & rechargeable. It makes it very manageable and allows one to clean every nook and corner of your home & car! Commenting on this innovative smart home appliance, Mr. Mahesh Gupta, Chairman KENT RO Systems Ltd said "Unlike traditional vacuum cleaners which are cumbersome, KENT Zoom offers a never like before cleaning experience coupled with unmatched speed. It comes with a hoseless and cordless design and is equipped with features such as multi nozzle, handy fold & motorized floor." For uninterrupted cleaning, this Vacuum Cleaner is well equipped with rechargeable Lithium battery Once fully charged it runs for 30-40 minutes continuously. Furthermore, to ensure ease of comfort of the user there is no bag attached to the vacuum cleaner making it lightweight and handy. It collects dust in a chamber and disposable dust bags are not required. Additionally. KENT Zoom Vacuum Cleaner comes with the Multi Nozzle Operation. It gives you freedom to deep clean surfaces which requires a close and detailed cleaning. Another highlight of the product is its motorized floor brush operation. This facilitates to clean both hard surfaces such as floors and soft ones such as carpets. Also, the handy fold operation gives you freedom to clean tough and unreachable areas. This product also boasts of 130W powerful suction motor that sucks all the dust from every corner of the room and makes it spotless and dust-free. Moreover, keeping the hygiene factor in mind, the vacuum cleaner is geared with advanced cyclonic technology that sucks dust at high speed to make your room spotless clean. KENT Zoom Vacuum Cleaner Efficient Particulate Arrestor (HEPA) filter which is washable. This technology helps provide clean, dust-free and spotless surrounding

#### IndianOil's Pipeline Division observes Vigilance Awareness Week-2021

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IndianOil's Pipelines Division HO and its over 100 locations observed the Vigilance Awareness Week-2021 from 26th October to 1st November 2021 under the theme: Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity. Awareness activities were conducted for employees, for stakeholders beyond the organisation

like rural and urban masses in villages and towns and students in schools and & Industry and Consumer Affairs, Food colleges in proximity of its offices across the length and breadth of IndianOil's 15000 km plus pipeline network. Mr Anant Kumar Singh, IPS, CVO, IndianOil visited PLHO, Noida for the concluding function where he addressed over 200 officers in hybrid mode. He complimented the senior leadership of Pipelines Division for successfully conducting the vigilance awareness activities across its 5 regions and 100 plus locations in unison during VAW-2021. Speaking on the evolving function of Vigilance, he highlighted the importance of Preventive Vigilance and leveraging technologies for e-vigilance

sensitised all about the recent CVC Manual on Vigilance Guidelines and covered the entire spectrum of the evolving vigilance function including PIDPI and Whistle Blower Act.

#### NBCC hands over pending flats to homebuyers on dhanteras

On the festive occasion of Diwali, NBCC offered the Letter of possession to the homebuyers for their long-awaited dream homes in a holy ceremony held at Centurian Park project in Greater Noida on 02.11.2021. The possession letters were given to flat owners in the presence Ld. Court Receiver, Monitoring Committee appointed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and NBCC officials. Delivery of these flats has come as a breather to the distressed Homebuyers. On receiving the letters, the buyers expressed their gratitude to the Ld. Court Receiver and NBCC for completing the long pending flats despite of the disruptions of COVID-19 Pandemic. Out of 110 nos. of completed flats the possession letters were issued to 28 no. of homebuyers who paid their outstanding dues whereas the rest were requested to clear their dues so that the possession letters can be issued to them as well. It is worth mentioning that at present the projects are being funded by SBI CAP enabling NBCC for timely completion of the project.

#### **Banaras Locomotive Works built** 3000 HP cape Gauge successfully

commissioned in Mozambique The BLW built 3000 HP Cape Gauge locomotive has been successfully commissioned in Mozambique. It may be noted that Banaras Locomotive Works has signed an agreement with RITES on 02 November 2020 for the supply of six 3000 HP CG Locomotives to Mozambique. BLW completed the locomotive construction in a period of 9 months and all six locomotives were shipped to Mozambique by 21 August in the delivery period even after the COVID pandemic. A technical team from BLIW was dispatched to Mozambique on 15.10.21 to commission the three locomotives available in Mozambique (Bira). The commissioning team of BLW has successfully commissioned all the three locomotives available in Mozambique their families, business partners as well as on 02.11.21 to the full satisfaction of CFM/ Mozambique. It is to be mentioned that the

and Public Distribution, Shri Piyush Goyal and Shri Piyush Goyal flagged off 02 locomotives for export to Mozambique of 3000 HP Cape Gauge on 10th March, 2021 at Banaras Rail Locomotive Factory Jennifer Abdulai, Minister of Transport Communications, Government of Mozambique flagged off via video conferencing. Under the spirit of self-reliant India, these Cape Gauge Diesel Locos have been manufactured in India and financed by India. This is BLW's first AC-AC Traction System 3000 HP, Cape Gauge Loco. The capacity of these locomotives is 2255 tonnes at a speed of 100 kmph. The most important item of the engine i.e. the crank-case assembly is manufactured in-house at BLW. These locomotives are equipped with state-of-the-art technology like AC-AC Traction System, Computer Controlled Brake System etc. To enhance the comfort of the crew, facilities like air conditioning, hot plate, refrigerator etc. have been provided in the cab of the locomotive.General Manager Anjali Goyal described this historic achievement as the result of hard work and dedication of the officers and employees of Banaras Locomotive Works (BLW).

Union Minister of Railways, Commerce

A Business Initiative

#### ONGC CMD nominated as **President of All India Public Sector Sports Promotion Board**

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) CMD Subhash Kumar has been unanimously nominated as the President of the All India Public Sector Sports Promotion Board (AIPSSPB). The decision was taken during the 13th Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 7 November 2021 in New Delhi, Earlier, Mr Kumar was serving as the Executive Vice President of the Board.During the tenure of ONGC CMD as the Executive Vice President of the All India Sports body, the Board has made phenomenal contributions towards the promotion of sports across the country. The hard work of AIPSSPB was illustrated after nine (9) officers of central PSUs ONGC and IOC were recently conferred with the Arjuna and Dhyanchand Awards for 2021. During the AGM. ONGC Executive Director HP Singh was also unanimously nominated as the Vice President of the Board. The Board decided to enhance its efforts to revive the sporting activities, which have been affected due to the COVID-19 pandemic, by conducting inter-PSU events in some games. In this line, the first event of the Financial Year will be a PSU Cricket Tournament to be conducted with financial assistance from ONGC preferably in December 2021, Representatives of 18 member organizations namely ONGC, AAI, Oriental Insurance, Bank of Baroda, Central Warehousing Corporation Reserve Bank of India, EPFO, NALCO, BHEL, Air India, MTNL, HPCL, LIC, FCI, NFL, Coal India, BSNL and Oil India participated in the AGM.

### Ahmednagar fire tragedy: civil surgeon, three others suspended

Decision taken after investigation report submitted by a team of senior officials

SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE

Following the Ahmednagar hospital fire tragedy where 11 COVID-19 patients, mostly senior citizens, lost their lives, the Maharashtra Government has suspended the district civil surgeon along with three other hospital staff personnel, while terminating the services of

State Health Minister Rajesh Tope tweeted late on Monday that Ahmednagar District Civil Surgeon Sunil Pokharna along with two medical officers - Suresh Dakhe and Vishaka Shinde – and staff nurse Sapna Pathare had been suspended.

**Service terminated** 

The services of two staff nurses – Asma Sheikh and Chhana Anant – have been

Charred remains: A view of the hospital's COVID-19 ward that caught fire in Ahmednagar. • REUTERS

terminated.

"Based on the information available in the Ahmednagar hospital fire tragedy, we have taken action against some officials..." Mr. Tope had tweeted.

Soon after the incident on last Saturday, the clamour for action against the district civil surgeon had been grow-

ing steadily with Dr. Pokharna facing flak from irate relatives of the deceased, political parties and activists for his alleged failure to ensure that safety measures were in place in the hospital.

According to sources, the decision was taken on the basis of the report submitted

deputed by the Government to probe the causes that led to the incident.

At a press conference on November 7, Mr. Tope had promised stern action against those found guilty on the basis of the report of the committee appointed by the State Government.

Despite the Health Minister and the district administration claiming that a fire audit of the hospital had been conducted a few months back, the district fire authorities said that the hospital was utterly wanting in basic firefighting infrastructure.

According to fire authorities, apart from fire extinguishers, the civil hospital lacked a concrete firefighting system and allegedly had no fire sprinklers, hydrants or even smoke detectors.

### Bihar BJP calls for rethink on prohibition after deaths

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to review liquor policy next week

AMARNATH TEWARY

The prohibition laws which came into effect in Bihar in April 2016 have now caused a divide in the State BJP, a partner in the ruling coalition, after over a hundred people died from consuming spurious liquor - 90 of them this year alone. While one group of the State unit BJP leaders have demanded a serious review of the prohibition laws, another group has supported it.

Cornered from all sides over the recurring hooch deaths, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has now called a highlevel review of the prohibition policy on November 16. Mr. Kumar also said prohibition in the State was not his private concern but a public matter and people themselves should make it effective, adding that there were always some who indulge in "misdeeds".

In the last four days, over 40 people have died, and several others lost their vision in Gopalganj, West Champaran. Samastipur, Muzaffarpur, Siwan and Rohtas districts after consuming spurious liquor.

The State's BJP chief Sanjay Jaiswal, who comes from West Champaran district

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Nitish Kumar

where over 14 people died last week after consuming spurious liquor, said there was need for a serious review of the prohibition laws in the State. "I believe that this law has been enacted for about six years and the success and failures of it should be reconsidered," Mr Jaiswal told presspersons.

The State BJP president further said, "Police, liquor mafias and local administration nexus in the State has helped flourish the business of illegal liquor" and embarassed the Chief Minister and his Government. A group of State BJP leaders too supported Mr. Jaiswal and said "the time has come that the Government should rethink over prohibition laws in the State".

However, senior State BJP leader and Rajya Sabha member Sushil Kumar Modi, who

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is said to be close to Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, came out in support of prohibition in the State. "Since people have died by

consuming spurious liquor, it does not mean that there will be an end to the prohibition in Bihar as the BJP was n favour of prohibition. The Nitish Kumar Government should take adequate steps to enforce prohibition more strictly in the State," said Mr. Modi. After the recent hooch

deaths, the local police in the affected districts arrested 568 people under new stringent prohibition laws. Ever since prohibition laws came into effect in April 2016, over 100 lakh litres of liquor – both Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) and country made and nearly 60,000 vehicles have been seized. Over four lakh arrests were made but only few hundred persons have been convicted. About 600 police and excise officials were suspended and dismissed for their connivance with the liquor mafia.

"We'll hold a review meeting on November 16 after Chhath and ensure that those involved in illegal or illicit trade of liquor are not spared," Mr. Kumar said.

### Mayawati: BJP, SP making it a Hindu-Muslim election in U.P.

OMAR RASHID

The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) president Mayawati on Tuesday said on Tuesday that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the main Opposition Samajwadi Party (SP) were trying to communalise and turn the 2022 Uttar Pradesh Assembly election into a "Hindu-Muslim" one.

Ms. Mayawati also said that the two were "different sides of the same coin" and that there was no difference between them. To divert attention from its anti-people policy and failures, the BIP was working in collusion with the SP to raise communal and religious issues, she told reporters at a press conference here. "They want to make the election Hindu-Muslim," she said

It must be recalled that in 2019 Ms. Mayawati had allied with the SP for the Lok Sabha election but broke off the ties after the results, renewing acrimony between the two sides who have ruled the State for most of the last three decades.

Referring to SP chief Akhilesh Yadav's latest remark on Muhammad Ali Jinnah at a rally in Hardoi and Chief Minister Yogi Aditvanath's regular utterances on the 1990 firing on 'karsevaks' in Ayodhya under the Mulayam Singh Government, Ms. Mayawati said the SP and BIP were dependant on each other and nourished each other's politics.

"Both parties are casteist and communal," said Ms. Mayawati, stating that when the SP is in power, the BJP gets strengthened. In contrast, when the BSP comes to power, the BJP becomes weak, she said. Despite a long list of her leaders switching loyalty to the SP, Ms. Mayawati said their exit will not impact her party. Party workers and supporters don't leaveBSP when these leaders quit, she argued.



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"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் :

Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by S. Ramanujam at HT Media Ltd. Plot No. 8, Udyog Vihar, Greater Noida Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. 201306, on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Group Editorial Officer: Krishna Prasad. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act) Regd. DL(ND)-11/6110/2006-07-08 • RNI No. UPENG/2012/49940 • ISSN 0971 - 751X • Vol. 11 • No. 265

### झारखण्ड सरकार पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह

ई—प्रोक्योरमेट सूचना (निविदा आमत्रण सचना)

	(11141 31118 1 (2111)							
ई–िन	विदा प्रसंग सं० :– RCD/GIRIDII	-1/1313 दिनाक ≔ <b>08.11.2021</b>						
		CRPF कैम्प (गिरिडीह बस स्टैण्ड वं						
		नजदिक)–आफिसर्स कॉलोनी–						
1.	कार्य का नाम	एस0पी0 कोठी (NH-114A पर) पथ						
		(कुल लंबाई–1.20 कि0मी0) का						
		पुनर्निर्माण कार्य वर्ष 2021—22						
		₹50 2,73,39,075.00						
2.	प्राक्कलित राशि (रूपये में)	(दो करोड़ तिहत्तर लाख उन्तालीस						
		हजार पचहत्तर रूपये मात्र)						
3.	कार्य समाप्ति की अवधि	०५ (पॉच) माह						
4.	निविदा प्राप्ति की अंतिम तिथि एवं	29.11.2021 12:00 बजे दिन						
4.	समय	तक						
5.	वेबसाईट पर निविदा प्रकाशित होने	16.11.2021 10:30 बजे पूर्वाहन						
5.	की तिथि एवं समय	, ,						
6.	निविदा आमंत्रित करने वाले का नाम							
L 0.	एवं पता	निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह।						
7.	प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क न०	06532 227054						
8.	ई—प्रोक्योरमेट सेल का हेल्प लाईन न०	0651 — 2401010						
J 0.	ह आनवाराज सरा का दरा साहा ।	0001 2101010						

नोट :- प्राक्कलित राशि घट-बढ़ सकती है। अतिरिक्त जानकारी के लिए वेबसाईट पर देखें :-

आति श्वत जीनकारी के लिए वबसीइट पर देखे :— ह०/—
<a href="http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in">http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in</a> कार्यपालक अभियंता,
<a href="http://prescription.gov.in">PR 256679 (Road)21-22\*D पथ निर्माण विभाग, पथ प्रमण्डल, गिरिडीह</a>

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT "NOTICE INVITING TENDERS"

The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Sarkaghat invites tender on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from eligible Government Contractors for the following work through off line process:-

S. No	Name of work	Cost in Rs.	money in Rs.	from in Rs.	Time			
1.	Gounta & Rakhota, Tehsil Sarkaghat,	3,09,350/-	6190/-	250/-	Three Months.			
	Distt. (H.P.) (SH:-Laying, Jointing & Testing 15 mm dia Node No. 52-62=100 Rmt, Node No.99-100=450 Rmt, 20mm dia Node No.91-92 =450, 52-53=500 Rmt, & 40mm dia Node No. 1-2 =550 Rmt Total = 2050 Rmt). <b>Job No.1</b>							
	0/0 0/4/00 D / D/ / 0 D	0.00.4004	5000/	050/				

	dia Node No.91-92 =450, 52-53=500 F Total = 2050 Rmt). <b>Job No.1</b>	Rmt ,& 40mn	n dia Node	No. 1-2 =5	50 Rmt
2.	C/O GWSS Rohan Bharyana in G.P. Gounta & Rakhota, Tehsil Sarkaghat,		5330/-		Three Months.
	Distt. (H.P.) (SH:-Laying Jointing & Testing 15 mm dia Node No. 43-48 = 2		nm dia No	de No. 2 -	42 =
	1500 Rmt, Total =1750 Rmt). Job No 2				

	Distt. (H.P.) (SH:-Laying jointing &				
	Testing 15 mm dia Node No. 20-27 = 3	00, 9-37 =1	50 Rmt., 20	mm dia No	ode No.
	4-20 =545 Rmt, 4-5 =160, 32mm dia No Job No 3.	ode No.2-4 =	870 Rmt.	Tota <b>l</b> =2025	Rmt).
4	C/O GWSS Rohan Bharvana in G.P.	3 13 579/-	6280/-	250/-	Three

Gounta & Rakhota, Tehsil Sarkaghat, Months
Distt. (H.P.) (SH:-Laying jointing &
Testing 15 mm dia Node No. 13-13 =150 Rmt,. 66-69 =350, 66-77-150,Rmt,.
20mmdia Node No. 4-8 =345 Rmt. 8-11 =525, 32 dia Node No. 65-66 =550 Rmt.

Last date sale of tender form Divisional office 25-11-2021.

3. C/O GWSS Rohan Bharyana in G.P. 2,94,926/- 5900/-

Gounta & Rakhota, Tehsil Sarkaghat,

Total =2070 Rmt). Job No 4.

The tender form and other detailed conditions can be downloaded from the website <a href="https://www.hpiph.org">www.hpiph.org</a>. or from office above Executive Engineer upto date specified.

Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Sarkaghat

HP/4672/21-22 HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPRAK

### OPPORTUNITES HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT · JOBS · TECHNOLOGY

**GENERAL** 

### INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TIRUPAT Renigunta Road, Settipalli Post, Tirupati-517506, Chittoor District, , A.

No: IIT T/Hindi Officer/2021 November 10, 2021 IIT Tirupati is in need of a Hindi Consultant to be engaged on contract basis from retired Officials of Central Government. The interested retired officials may please visit <a href="http://iittp.ac.in">http://iittp.ac.in</a> for detailed advertisement and also prescribed application form. The last date for receipt of applications is 10-12-2021.

Registrar, IIT Tirupati



### **AMET RECRUITS**

#### DIRECTOR FOR ONLINE AND DISTANCE LEARNING

An Academician with full time experience in Online Learning and Distance Education with good knowledge in latest ICT Technologies

#### ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS / PROFESSORS

IN MANAGEMENT STUDIES AND COMPUTER SCIENCE with Industry Experience and qualifications as per UGC norms

#### RESEARCH SCIENTISTS

#### Associate Professor / Professor Cadre -

Mechanical Engineering, EEE, Ocean Engineering, Management Studies, Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Marine Biotechnology and other Marine Related Disciplines; Doctorate degree with credible publications and experience in handling Government Funded Projects is essential; Retired persons can also apply

#### ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

IN MARINE ENGINEERING AND NAUTICAL SCIENCE Qualifications as per DGS norms

### INSTRUCTORS IN THE SEAMANSHIP LAB

Age should be below 50 years; Held a rank as Bosun (Serang) or Able Seafarer on a Merchant Ship Ex-Navy/ Coast Guard Instructors must be Petty Officers or equivalent from the Seamanship branch.

The eligible candidates can apply with detailed curriculum vitae by email to registrar@ametuniv.ac.in within 10 days.

- Registrar

दिल्ली सरकार <sub>आप की</sub> सरकार

# SEWARE OF THE HARVIFUL EFFECT OF NOLUTION

#### WE CAN REDUCE NOISE POLLUTION BY FOLLOWING THE TIPS BELOW:

- Say no to crackers during festivals & Important occasions
- Do not Honk! Unnecessarily
- Do not use horn in identified silence
- Use the acoustic enclosure with DJ sets
- Use of silencers in automobiles
- Shut the door/ barricade the area when using noisy machines
- Use the sound limiters with DJ and public addressing system
- Follow the noise rules and limits of noise level
- Go Green by planting trees

Is your neighbour creating unbearable noise Are you sick of DJs, Loud Speakers & PA Systems

You can call on

ERSS-112
Dedicated Helpline for
Noise Pollution – 155271

You can also lodge complaint online on

**ngms.delhi.gov.in** and **Green Delhi App** 

**ERSS - Emergency Response Support System** 

ERSS - 112 - It is one stop emergency number available 24x7. It is pan-India single number (112) based response system for persons in distress.

Call for issues relating to:

Single Number to reach police, ambulance or fire services

Department of Environment, Government of NCT of Delhi





छठ पूजा के इस महापर्व पर छठी मैया का आशीर्वाद हम सभी पर बना रहे और हमारे जीवन में खुशियां और सौभाग्य लेकर आये।





''आप सभी व्रतियों को आस्था के महापर्व छठ पूजा की हार्दिक शुभकामनायें! छठी मैया आपके परिवार को स्वस्थ और खुश रखे।''

> —अरविंद केजरीवाल मुख्यमंत्री, दिल्ली







CM YK सूचना एवं प्रचार निदेशालय, राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली सरकार

#### **Government of Jammu and Kashmir**

**Directorate of Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir** Lal-Mandi, Srinagar 190008, Tel. No: 09194-2310604. Fax No: 0194-2311063 Email id: kashmirmerino.sheep@gmail.com

e-Nit No:-DSHK/ACCTTS/11510-11521 Dated:-06 -11-2021

**Subject:** E-Tendering Notice for Carriage/Transportation of dry fodder crop and sanjahay. For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Union Territory of India, e-Tenders in two bid system (Technical-1 and Financial bid-2) through Chairman State Level Purchase committee Sheep Husbandry Department, J&K, Kashmir (Directorate of Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir) are invited for Carriage/Transportation of dry fodder crop and sanja hay from Fodder development Farm Lam and Kalsian, Tehsil Nowshera, District Rajouri for the year 2021-22 to

S.No	Name of the Farm					
1.	Sheep Breeding Farm Reasi					
2.	Sheep Breeding Farm Panthal					
3.	Sheep Breeding Farm Billawar					
4.	Sheep Breeding Farm Thathri					
5.	Sheep Breeding Farm Balnoi					
6.	Sheep Breeding Farm Chandrkote 7. Dairy Goat Farm Rajbagh					

he bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility, criteria, specifications, bill c quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of supply/contract and other details can be

_		
01	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	06-11-2021
02	Period of downloading of bidding documents	07-11-2021 to 16-11-2021
03	Bid submission start date	07-11-2021
04	Bid Submission end date	16-11-2021(4:00 p.m)
05	Date and time of opening of bids (online)	17-11-2021(2:00 p.m)

- Instructions for bidders regarding e-tendering process:-Bidders are advised to download bids submission manual from the "Downloads option as we as from Bidders Manual kit" on the website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint themselves with To participate in bidding process bidder has to get a Digital Signature Certificate (DSC), as pe
- Information Technology ACT-2000. Bidders can get Digital Certificate from an approve The bidder has to submit their bids online in electronic format with the Digital Signature. N
- bidding will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per the schedule mentioned at Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technic
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any (Note: Scan all the documents on 100dpi with Black and White option.)

DIPK-12123/21

Chairman State Level Purchase Committee Sheep Husbandry Department

#### HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT \* INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) \*

Sr No	Name of work	Estimated cost (Rs)	Starting Date for downloading Bid and end date	Earnest Money (Rs)	Cost of Form (Rs.)	Deadline for submission of bid	Time	Eligible class of Contr.		
1.	Construction of 60.00 meter Spans (4 Span 15.00 meter each)	2,79,14,113.00	11.11.2021 at 3.00 PM to 25.11.2021 upto 11.00 AM	3,12,000.00	5000.00	25.11.2021 upto 11:00 AM.	Eighteen Months	Class A & B		
		or Rajput Basti T	hana (SH: C/o Sub- Structu	re and both s	ide Appro	paches).				
2.	Construction of Muslim/Hrijan Basti	6,23,450.00	11.11.2021 at 3.00 PM to 25.11.2021 upto 11.00 AM	12,500.00	350.00	25.11.2021 upto 11:00 AM.	Three Months	Class C & D		
	Khera to Khera road Chak road km 0/0 to 1/00	(SH: P/L CC Pa	ver block in km 0/640 to 0/8	90).						
3.	Construction of link road from Ghared road to	9,18,887.00	11.11.2021 at 3.00 PM to 25.11.2021 upto 11.00 AM	18,400.00	350.00	25.11.2021 upto 11:00 AM.	Three Months	Class C & D		
	village Beh Koliyan (Doon) km 0/0 to 1/800 (SH: C/o 04 Nos. NP2 Pipe 900mm dia HPC at RD 0/070, 0/250, 0/410 and 0/630 along with wing walls in downstream side).									
4.	R/R on Link road to village Dharmana km	6,22,068.00	11.11.2021 at 3.00 PM to 25.11.2021 upto 11.00 AM	12.500.00	350.00	25.11.2021 upto 11:00 AM.	Three Months	Class C & D		
	0/0 to 9/160 (SH: Patch work between km 4/00 to 9/160, P/L interlocking paver in km 4/380 to 4/430, 4/660 to 4/700, 5/400 to 5/420, 6/700 to 6/720, Breast wall RD 4/040 to 4/047, Retaining wall RD 3/620 to 3/665 to									
5.	A/R & M/O On Shimla Kunihar Ramshehar	10,64,398.00	11.11.2021 at 3.00 PM to 25.11.2021 upto 11.00 AM	21,300.00	500.00	25.11.2021 upto 11:00 AM.	Two Months	Class C & D		
		Nalagarh road km 83/0 to 94/00 (SH: Repair to pot holes with bitumen concrete km 83/00 to 94/00).								
6.	A/R & M/o Barotiwala Baddi Sai Ramshehar	28,39,810.00	11.11.2021 at 3.00 PM to 25.11.2021 upto 11.00 AM	50,010.00	1500.00	25.11.2021 upto 11:00 AM.	Four Months	Class C & D		
- 1	road km 0/0 to 45/040 (SH: P/L WMM and Interlocking payer in Shoulder in km 5/00 to 6/400 and RCC drain 6/250 to 6/320).									
		ocking paver in S	Shoulder in km 5/00 to 6/400	and RCC dra	ain 6/250	to 6/320). (Unde	er NGT).			

Nalagarh in km 0/0 to 3/00 (SH: ROFD C/o 900mm dia Hume pipe culvert in km 0/0 to 1/00) (Under SCCP, MMGPY Deposit) Construction of link road 6,91,640.00 11.11.2021 at 3.00 PM to 13,850.00 | 350.00 | 25.11.2021

25.11.2021 upto 11.00 AM Nalagarh Bawasni to Harijan Basti jabal Taprian in km 0/0 to 3/500 (SH: ROFD C/o 900mm dia Hume pipe culvert in km 0/0 to 1/00) (Under SCCP, MMGPY Deposit) 11.11.2021 at 3.00 PM to 11,500.00 350.00 25.11.2021 Harinur Kenchi Mod upto 11:00 AM. Months | C & D 25.11.2021 upto 11.00 AM

(Haripur) to Beh Mandi km 0/0 to 5/00 (SH: P/L 25mm thick Bitumen Concrete in km 0/0 to 0/600) Construction of Dialysis | 31,73,791.00 | 11.11.2021 at 3.00 PM to | 55,107.00 | 1500.00 | 25.11.2021 | Eighteen | Class Unit in CHC Nalagarh | 25.11.2021 upto 11.00 AM | Months | C & D

Building portion and water supply and sanitary installation

The bidders are advised to note other details of Tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in

**Executive Enginee** Nalagarh B&R Division HP PWD. Nalagarh

#### झारखण्ड सरकार (उच्च, तकनीकी शिक्षा एवं कौशल विकास विभाग, झारखण्ड) प्राचार्य का कार्यालय

राजकीय महिला पोलिटेकनिक, बोकारो Tel.+Fax 06542-253239, e-mail gwp\_bokaro@rediffmail.com

<u>अंशकालीन व्याख्याताओं के चयन हेतु आवेदन पत्र का आमंत्रण एवं साक्षात्कार संबंधी</u> <u>सूचना 01 / 2021-22</u>

उच्च. तकनीकी शिक्षा एवं कौशल विकास विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार के पत्रांक—689 दिनांक—12.07.2019 एवं संकल्प ज्ञापाक—2890 दिनाक—11.12.15 के आलोक में निम्नलिखित विशयों / शाखाओं में शैक्षणिक सत्र 2021—22 के लिए अंशकालीन व्याख्याताओं के रूप में कार्यानुमति हेतु इच्छुक उम्मीदवारों से आवेदन पत्र आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं। आवेदन पत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 18.11.2021 है। यह अशकालीन व्याख्याता के कार्यानुमति की व्यवस्था पूर्णतः अस्थायी है एवं किसी भी समय बिना बताए कार्यानुमति निरस्त किया जा सकता है। इसमें यथा सभव झारखण्ड सरकार के प्रावधान के अन्तर्गत आरक्षण नियम लागु होंगे । इच्छुक उम्मीद्वार अपने आवेदन के साथ सभी शैक्षणिक मूल प्रमाण-पत्रों / अंक पत्रों एवं उसकी छायाप्रति तथा आरक्षण का दावा करने वाले उम्मीद्वार अनुमंडल पदाधिकारी / उपायुक्त से नियोजन संबंधी मूल जाति प्रमाण पत्र के साथ 22.11.2021 के पर्वाहन 10:00 बजे अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय कक्ष में उपस्थित होकर साक्षात्कार में भाग ले सकते हैं। अभ्यर्थी जिनका GATE/NET/SET Valid Score Card एवं अनुभव वाले अभ्यर्थियों को नियमानुसार प्राथमिकता दी जायेगी। पूर्व में कार्यरत अशकालीन व्याख्याताओं को साक्षत्कार में भाग लेना अनिवार्य है। साक्षात्कार हेतुँ अलग से पत्र निर्गत नहीं किया जायेगा। वैसे उम्मीद्वार जो किसी सरकारी संस्थान / उपक्रम में कार्यरत हैं, उन्हें अपने नियंत्री पदाधिकारी से कार्यानुमति से पूर्व अनापत्ति

क्र0	शाखा/विषय का नाम	न्यूनतम शैक्षणिक योग्यता
1	कम्प्यूटर साईंस एण्ड इंजीनियरिंग	AICTE Approved संस्थान से कम्प्यूटर साईंस एण्ड इंजीनियरिंगशाखा में प्रथम श्रेणी में स्नातक / या स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।
2	इलेक्ट्रीकल इंजीनियरिंग	AICTE Approved संस्थान से इलेकट्रीकल इंजीनियरिंग में प्रथम श्रेणी में स्नातक/या स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।
3	इलेक्ट्रोनिक्स एण्ड कम्यूनिकेशन इंजीनियरिंग	AICTE Approved संस्थान से इलेक्ट्रोनिक्स अभियंत्रण में प्रथम श्रेणी में स्नातक / या स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।
4	भौतिकी	मान्यताप्राप्त विश्वविद्यालय से भौतिकी विज्ञान में प्रथम श्रेणी में स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।
5	रसायन	मान्यता प्राप्त विश्वविद्यालय से रसायन विज्ञान में प्रथम श्रेणी में रनातकोत्तर डिग्री।
6	गणित	मान्यता प्राप्त विश्वविद्यालय से गणित में प्रथम श्रेणी में स्नातकोत्तर डिग्री।

**कार्य का दायित्व :**— कार्यानुमति प्राप्त अंशकालीन व्याख्याताओंको मुख्यतः NBA Accrediation हेतु दिये हुए मापदण्डों के अनुरूप कार्यों एवं अपने विशय के व्याख्यान से संबंधित सभी तरह के शैक्षणिक कार्यों का सम्पादन निम्न शर्त्तों के अनुसार करना होगा।

प्रमाण-पत्र प्रस्तुत करना होगा।

- साक्षात्कार में उपस्थित होने के लिए किसी प्रकार का भत्ता देय नहीं होगा।
- व्याख्यान / कार्य आरम्भ करने की तिथि से इस शैक्षणिक सत्र (2021–22) के लिए पूर्णतः अंशकालीन व्याख्याता के रूप में
- सरकार द्वारा स्वीकृत रू0 400 / (चार सौ रू0 मात्र) प्रति व्याख्यान की दर से अधिकतम 60 वर्ग कार्य प्रतिमाह तक पारिश्रमिक के रूप में देय होगा।
- इस व्यवस्था के अन्तर्गत कार्यानुमति प्राप्त कोई अंशकालीन व्याख्याता नियमित नियुक्ति के हकदार नहीं होंगे।
- योगदान करने या व्याख्यान देने के लिए किसी प्रकार का यात्रा भत्ता देय नहीं होगा।
- किसी भी संस्थान / उपक्रम में कार्यरत व्यक्तियों को कार्य प्रारम्भ करने के पूर्व अपने मूल कार्यस्थल से इस शैक्षणिक सत्र 2021—22 हेत् अनापत्ति प्रमाण—पत्र प्रस्तुत करना होगा।
  - अभ्यर्थी का कार्यरत रहने की आयु अधिकत्तम 65 वर्श होगी।

PR.NO.256670 Science & Technology(21-22):D

चयनित अंशकालीन व्याख्याताओं को मानदेय का भुगतान इस आशय का शपथ पत्र समर्पित करने के उपरान्त ही किया जायेगा, कि वे सिर्फ राजकीय महिला पोलिटेकनिक, बोकारो में अंशकालीन व्याख्याता के रूप में कार्य करते हैं। उच्च, तकनीकी शिक्षा एवं कौशल विकास विभाग, झारखण्ड सरकार के अन्तर्गत किसी भी अन्य पोलिटेकनिक/महिला पोलिटेकनिक अथवा अभियंत्रण महाविद्यालय में व्याख्याता के रूप में कार्यरत नहीं हैं।

प्रभारी प्राचार्य राजकीय महिला पोलिटेकनिक, बोकारो।

### Mamata likely to take over Finance portfolio

No new Minister in W.B. Cabinet reshuffle

SHIV SAHAY SINGH

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee is likely to take over the Finance department in a reshuffle of the Council of Ministers. And former Finance Minister Amit Mitra was on Tuesday appointed as Principal Chief Adviser to the Chief Minister and the Finance department.

A notification issued by the government said Mr. Mitra shall be entitled to emoluments, allowances and perks as admissible to a Cabinet Minister. Over the past one year, Mr. Mitra, who held the Finance portfolio, has been largely working from home and he did not contest this year Assembly polls and the subsequent by-

The Chief Minister holds the key portfolios of Home and Hill Affairs, Health, Minority Affairs, Information and Cultural Affairs among

While the government



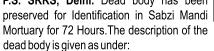
Mamata Banerjee

has not issued a formal notification about the reshuffle till Tuesday evening, sources in the government informed that no new Minister is likely to be been inducted in the Council of Ministers.

Minister Pulak Roy, who holds Public Health Engineering, is likely to be given charge of the Panchayat department. Veteran TMC leader Subrata Mukherjee death on November 4 had resulted in the vacancy in the department. Senior TMC leader Manas Ranjan Bhuniya, who is in charge of Water Resources will be given the additional responsibility of Consumer Affairs.

### APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that one male was found dead at KM Pole No. 11/12-14, Shakur Basti Railway Station Delhi On 05.11.2021 at 07:48 P.M. In this regard **DD** No. 6A Dated 05.11.2021 has been lodged at P.S. SRRS, Delhi. Dead body has been



Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o:Unknown, Age: about 28-30 years, Height: 5'4" Feet, Complexion: Wheatish, Injury: Head Injury, Wearing: Black Shirt, Blue Jeans.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the information about the dead male but no clue has come to light so far. If any one is having any information about this dead male please inform the undersigned. S.H.O

DP/375/RLY/2021

P.S. SRRS, Delhi Ph.: 011-28711697, 8750871308

#### **Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department "E-Procurement Notice"**

Phone No: 01896-227054 **Invitation for Bids (IFB)** E-mail: ee-tis-hp@gov.in The Executive Engineer, Tissa HPPWD Tissa-176316 on H.P. on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, invites the items rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the works as detailed in the table:

r. O.		Estimated cost Rs.	Starting date of downloading	Earnest Money	Deadline for submission of bid		Eligible Class		
	A/R and M/O to Koti Chakloo via Chandi road	1329451.00 d.(SH:- Annua			24/11/2021 up to 11.00 AM /0 to 8/0)	One Month	D and above		
	R/o damages due to laying	6136725.00	17/11/2021	122735.00	24/11/2021 up to 11.00 AM	Six Months	D&C		
	of OFC on Chamba Tissa road KM 32/250 to 56/500 (SH: P/L CC pavement at RD 51/250 to 51/700)								

3. C/o Welcome | 1525332.00 | 17/11/2021 | 30600.00 | 24/11/2021 | Three | D & C Churah touris 11.00 AM

circuit on Chamba Tissa road at Kiani in Tehsil and District Chamba HF The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website www.hptenders.gov.in **Executive Enginee** 

### SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED



General Public is hereby informed that one person Namely: Marapan, S/o: Lt. Marjan, R/o: E-445, Shakurpur, JJ Colony, Delhi has been missing since 20.12.2015 from New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. In this regard a case vide DD No. 38A dated 06.11.2021 has been registered at P.S. New Delhi Railway Station, Delhi. The description of the missing/kidnapped male is as under:

Tissa Division HPPWD, Tissa at Bhaniraru.

Age: 69 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Round, Built: Medium, Hair: White, Wearing: Cream colour stripped shirt, light brown colour pant, white colour towel and black colour slipper in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this missing person kindly inform to the following.

Website: http//cbi.nic.in E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in P.S. New Delhi Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 Railway Station, Delhi Fax No. 011-24368639 DP/371/RLY/2021 Ph.: 011- 23744073, 8750871305

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **PUBLIC WORKS DIVISION NO. 1, NAGPUR** INVITATION FOR TENDER Email: div1nagpur.ee@mahapwd.com 0E- Tender Notice No. S/ 44/2021-2022

Sr.		Estt. cost	Cost of blank
No.	INAME OF WORK	(Rs. in lakhs)	tender form
1	Estimate for Erection of	130.62	1120.00
	Pendal and Shamiyana		
	at vidhanbhavan, 160		
	Tenament, Suyog (Council		
l	Hall) Nagpur for RAC 2021		

short tender Notice

1. Detailed Tender Notice can be seen on web site https://mahatenders.gov.in

Detailed Tender Notice can be seen on the Notice Board in the office of the undersigned. 3. Right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any

reason thereof is reserved with the undersigned. 4. In this Tender Notice, Tender Downloading, Tender Opening

etc. information available on web site. Outward No.7876 Date: 03/11/2021

**Executive Engineer** DGIPR/2021/2022/2632 P.W. Division No.1, Nagpur

### Fadnavis claims Malik has underworld links

NCP Minister hits back, says he will expose the former CM

STAFF REPORTER

As the political battle between the BJP and the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) Government in Maharashtra continues, former Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Tuesday claimed that Minister Nawab Malik has connections with the underworld as he purchased land from them during 2003 to 2005.

"Solidus Investment is Nawab Malik's company and land in Kurla was purchased from underworld criminals Sardar Shah Wali Khan and Mohd Salim Ishaq Patel during 2003 to 2005," said Mr. Fadnavis. Sardar Shah Wali Khan is convicted in 2007 by a TADA court to life imprisonment in the 1993 Mumbai bomb blasts case. The Supreme Court confirmed the sentence in 2013. Ishaq Patel



Devendra Fadnavis

alias Salim Patel as he's known is the front man of Haseena Parker. He was arrested in 2007 with Haseena Parkar in land grabbing and other fraud issues.

Mr. Fadnavis said three acres were purchased at LBS road for only ₹20 lakh. "Why did you purchase land from criminals of Mumbai. In such a serious matter where the underworld and the

blast convicts have connections with Minister Nawab Malik I will submit the documents to appropriate agencies for further investigation," he said.

In response, the Minister said he will bring forth evidence of the former CM's relations with the underworld and expose how officials were working with a don sitting in Dubai. "It seems the person providing information to Fadnavis is an amateur. The said land known as Goawala compound was built in 1984 where a residential co-operative housing society exists even today. When I was elected as an MLA first time in 1996, I had an office in the said compound. Fadnavis who became MLA in 1999 has not been briefed properly," said

### Have enough evidence on Wankhede: Malik to HC

NCP leader's reply comes after case by officer's father

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Narcotics Control Bureau's Zonal Director Sameer Wankhede's father has distorted facts and concocted stories to make feeble attempts to obtain court orders, said Maharashtra Cabinet Minister Nawab Malik before the Bombay High Court.

Mr. Malik filed a reply to the defamation suit filed by

Mr. Sameer's father Dhyandev Wankhede seeking damages of ₹1.25 crore for making derogatory statements against his family. As directed by Justice

Madhav Jamdar on Monday, the NCP leader filed his reply on Tuesday. It read: "The plaintiff [Mr. Dhyandev] has made a hue and cry when the defendant [Mr. Malik] has produced this birth certificate, thereby alleging that his name is not Dawood and he nor his son are Muslim by religion. The said certificate is issued by the BMC. If the said certificate is false, then it is for the plaintiff or Mr. Sameer to take corrective steps and pursue it with BMC...Till date, he has not produced any other birth certificate to contradict the one produced by the defendant, which falsifies the plaintiff's case to a

great extent."

### ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग झारखण्ड, रॉची

ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट निविदा (प्रथम आमंत्रण)

Tender	reference No-DW		GIRIDIH-1/11/2		را مرامانمام ا		Ot. 08-11.20
Sl		Cluster	Sub Cluster/		Estimate	Earnest money	Cost of Bo
No	Name of work	Name	Group No	Block	Cost (in Lac)	(in lac)	(in Rs.)
1	Construction of		1A		532.59	5.33	10000.00
2	Solar Based	1	1B	Bengabad	587.67	5.88	10000.00
3	Mini water		1C		694.88	6.95	10000.00
4	Supply Scheme		2A		740.31	7.41	10000.00
5	(SVS) IN	2	2B	Bengabad	779.23	7.80	10000.00
6	Different Block,		2C	1 0	781.10	7.82	10000.00
7	comprising of		3A		642.71	6.43	10000.00
8	suitable steel		3B		500.22	5.01	10000.00
9	structure & HDPE Water	3	3C	Bengabad	707.05	7.08	10000.00
10	Tank / R.C.C./		3D	+	863.28	8.64	10000.00
11	Framed		4A		738.37	7.39	10000.00
12	structure ESR,	4	4B	Gandey	670.06	6.71	10000.00
13	Distribution	7	4C	Ganacy	515.87	5.16	10000.00
14	Line, Source and		5A		827.81	8.28	10000.00
15	FHTC all	5	5B	Gandey	612.86	6.13	10000.00
16	complete job in	3	5C	Gandey		9.74	10000.00
17	the Different		6A	+	973.26	6.49	10000.00
	block of District			Conde	648.91		10000.00
18 19	Giridih under	6	6B 6C	Gandey	636.82	6.37 7.91	10000.00
	Drinking Water				790.07		
20	& Sanitation		7A	_	680.44	6.81	10000.00
21	Division No-1,	7	7B	Jamua	703.24	7.04	10000.00
22	Giridih for the year 2021-22 (on		7C		773.34	7.74	10000.00
23	Turn key basis)		7D		507.98	5.08	10000.00
24	Turn key busis)	_	8A		768.95	7.69	10000.00
25		8	8B	Jamua	804.01	8.05	10000.00
26			8C		870.43	8.71	10000.00
27			9A		844.43	8.45	10000.00
28		9	9B	Jamua	729.37	7.30	10000.00
29			9C		788.39	7.89	10000.00
30			10A		897.95	8.98	10000.00
31		10	10B	Deori	578.71	5.79	10000.00
32		10	10C	Dean	528.81	5.29	10000.00
33			10D		665.91	6.66	10000.00
34			11A		804.14	8.05	10000.00
35		11	11B	Deori	877.39	8.78	10000.00
36			11C		853.98	8.54	10000.00
37			12A		640.33	6.41	10000.00
38		12	12B	Deori	962.70	9.63	10000.00
39			12C		732.68	7.33	10000.00
40	]	13	13A	Deori	509.79	5.10	10000.00
41	]	13	13b	Deoil	812.59	8.13	10000.00
42	]		14A	_	504.00	5.05	10000.00
43		14	14B	Deori	500.43	5.01	10000.00
44	]		14C		712.93	7.13	10000.00
45			15A		515.87	5.16	10000.00
46		15	15B	Ticri	508.81	5.09	10000.00
47		15	15C	Tisri	940.62	9.41	10000.00
48			15D		556.04	5.57	10000.00
49	1		16A		667.10	6.68	10000.00
50	1	1.0	16B	T	758.57	7.59	10000.00
51	1	16	16C	Tisri	500.14	5.01	10000.00
52	1		16D	1	504.37	5.05	10000.00
53	वार्य पूर्ण करने की 3	। ।तथि		-	1	1	I .
	वेबसाईट पर निविदा		09 刊 <del>1 章</del> 配 00 11		00		
54				-2021 at 02:0		i rasta (mere :	
55	प्री–बीड बैठक का स्थान एवं तिथि अभियंता प्रमुख का कार्यालय, पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता विभाग, झारखण्ड, रॉची।						

दिनांक 16-11-2021 at 12:30pm 56 बिड प्राप्ति के लिए अन्तिम तिथि / समय 29-11-2021 at 03:00pm निविदा की हार्ड कॉपी जमा करने की 30-11-2021 upto 04:00 pm 1. कार्यपालक अभियता, पेयजेल एवं स्व० प्र० सं0—1, गिरिडीह या 2 अधीक्षण अभियता, पेयजल एवं स्व0 अंचल, धनबाद या 3. क्षेत्रीय मुख्य अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्व० विभाग, दुमका प्रक्षेत्र, दुमका। 01-12-2021 2:00pm बिड खोलने की तिथि/समय कार्यपालक अभियंता, पेयजल एवं स्व0 प्रमंडल संख्या—1, गिरिडीह। निविदा प्रकाशित करने वाले कार्यालय का प्रोक्योरमेंट पदाधिकारी का सम्पर्क संख्या 7870778158 ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट सेल का हेल्पलाईन संख्या 0651.2480345

किसी भी प्रकार का बदलाव http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है I अन्य किसी भी प्रकार की सूचना http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

🗲 निविदा में प्राक्कलित राशि घट-बढ सकती है। तत्पश्चात अग्रधन की राशि मान्य होगी। कार्यपालक अभियंता

पेयजल एवं स्वच्छता प्र0 सं0-PR 256681 Drinking Water and Sanitation (21-22)\_D गिरिडीह

Smart City project: action

will be taken against

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Alleging botched implemen-

tation of the Smart City pro-

ject during the erstwhile

AIADMK Government, Chief

Minister M.K. Stalin on Tues-

day said a Commission of In-

quiry would be constituted

and action taken against

contractors who implement-

scheme]. A Commission of

Inquiry will be constituted

Mr. Stalin said: "No work

was done by the Local Admi-

nistration Department head-

ed by Velumani [former Mi-

nister during the AIADMK

government]." On being

asked whether action would

be taken against contractors

and those who took up con-

tracts of the project, he said

action would definitely be

To a query on how the sit-

uation was in the city, the

Chief Minister said: "Work is

under way in rain-affected

and inundated areas by the

[DMK] party and the govern-

At another interaction

with reporters, Mr. Stalin

said though the AIADMK

had said that it had allocated

₹5,000 crore for restoring

rain-affected areas, it did not

look like actual work was

carried out. Since coming to

power, the DMK has desilted

channels extending up to 771

km, he said. "Last time, rain-

taken against them.

ment."

after this [rain] is over."

Speaking to reporters af-

ed the project.

contractors, says Stalin

Free food until rain is over, says CM

### In SC, Kerala bats for new dam at Mullaperiyar

Collapse of the 126-year-old dam will result in a catastrophe, says affidavit

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL

The Kerala government made a strong pitch in the Supreme Court to decommission the 126-year-old "deteriorated" Mullaperiyar dam operated by Tamil Nadu and build a new one, saying climate change, erratic and heavy rainfall and floods make the spectre of catastrophe real and near.

Kerala's affidavit coincides with a red alert issued in Chennai following torrential rains. The Chennai rains came in the heels of several days of downpour in Kerala.

The State also referred to the Uttarakhand flood, also known as the Chamoli disaster of February 2021, mainly attributed to the climate change in the environs of the Nanda Devi National Park, a UNESCO world heritage site.

"The only permanent solution for removing the eternal threat owing to the safety concerns of the 126-year-old existing dam in Mullaperiyar and for protecting the safety of the lakhs of people living in the downstream of Mullaperiyar dam, is to build a new dam in the downstream reaches of the existing Mullaperiyar dam," the State, represented by advocate G. Prakash, said in an affidavit.

The suggestion dates back to 1979. Kerala had suggested it in meetings with the Union Minister for Water Resources and the Chief Ministers of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. "But Tamil Nadu had not concurred with the proposal of new dam," says the affidavit.

The State referred to the decommissioning of another 19th century lime concrete structure, the Victoria dam



For a way out: Members of a Supreme Court-appointed panel inspecting the Mullaperiyar dam in June 2019. • FILE РНОТО

in Australia, which was decommissioned in 1990 following seepages and a new dam constructed.

The State urged the court to have the Supervisory Committee reconsider the peak value of upper rule level of 142 feet formulated by Tamil Nadu in consultation with the Central Water Commission (CWC).

If the water level at Mullaperiyar was kept at a higher

level, releases from it would be affecting the already filled Idukki reservoir, it argued.

"A cascading failure of Mullaperiyar and Idukki will result in a catastrophe which is beyond imagination affecting the life and property of 50 lakh of people residing below the Idukki dam," Kera-

The ageing dam was situated in the Seismic Zone III

### Tree felling order issued after consensus: official

A consensus on granting permission to Tamil Nadu to fell trees downstream of the Mullaperiyar baby dam to strengthen the structure was reached at two meetings held by the Additional Chief Secretary, Water Resources, on September 15 and 17, says Bennichen Thomas, Chief Wildlife Warden, Kerala, in an explanation submitted to the Government for issuing an order to this effect on November 5.

The order has since been put on hold.

In a detailed report, a copy of which is available with The Hindu, Mr. Thomas said the first meeting was held at the office of the Additional Chief Secretary and was attended by the Principal Secretary (Forest and Wildlife), himself and Field Director (Project Tiger), Kottayam, and the second was an inter-State Secretary-level meeting chaired by the Additional Chief Secretary.

Explaining his reasons for issuing the November 5 order allowing Tamil Nadu to cut down 15 trees, Mr. Thomas cited the Supreme Court judgments of 2006 and 2014 which restrained Kerala and and its officers from causing any objection to dam strengthening.

He said the Additional Chief Secretary phoned him on October 26 and requested to "expedite the issuance of the permission to cut trees if it can be legally alter visiting rain-affected and distributing food to flood-affected people in inundated areas in the city for the third consecutive Chennai. ■ M. VEDHAN day, Mr. Stalin said: "In the name of implementing the water stagnated for 10-15 Smart City project, several days. But yesterday, water drained when there was a let crores of rupees was received from the Union Goup in rain," he said. Work to vernment. We do not know drain water with 560 pumpsets is under way in low-lywhat they did with it [the funds for implementing the ing areas and places where

> On the criticism by AIADMK leader Edappadi K. Palaniswami over the delay in deputing IAS officers for carrying out rain-related activities, Mr. Stalin said the former Chief Minister was frustrated over the functioning of the DMK regime, but the government had gone about doing its duty.

Metro work is on, he said.

Chief Minister M.K. Stalin

On Tuesday, Mr. Stalin visited rain-affected areas in Ambattur, Kolathur, Maduravoval, Villivakkam and Virugambakkam Assembly constituencies.

Mr. Stalin said he had issued orders for distributing food in Amma Unavagams for free to people until the rain ends. Besides, sambar rice, curd rice and chappattis would be prepared in community kitchens and distributed to people affected by the rain on behalf of the Greater Chennai Corporation. He also visited Kolathur, his Assembly constituency, and distributed relief materials to residents.

### LDF to field Jose K. Mani for RS bypoll

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Left Democratic Front (LDF) will field Kerala Congress (M) chairperson Jose K. Mani for the upcoming byelection to the Rajya

The seat became vacant after Mr. Mani resigned and defected to the LDF from the United Democratic Front (UDF).

Earlier in the day, the LDF met here and decided to leave the seat to the KC (M). The parliamentary party of the KC(M) met at Pala later in the day and decided to nominate Mr. Mani for the seat

November 16 is the last date for filing of nomina-

### Examine probe report in CD case, court tells SIT

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Tuesday directed Soumendu Mukherjee, Additional Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru City (West Zone), to examine the final investigation report prepared by the investigation officer in the CD scandal case allegedly involving the former Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi.

The court said the final probe report should have been placed before Mr. Mukherjee, who is the head of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) supervising the investigation conducted into various first information reports registered in connection with the scandal.

A Division Bench com-



Ramesh Jarkiholi

prising Chief Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi and Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum issued the directions while hearing a batch of petitions related to the alleged scandal.

The Bench said the SIT should re-submit the report to the court after its head takes an appropriate decision on the final report prepared by the investigation

### A.P., Odisha to work closely to resolve water, border issues

#### 'Both States have helped each other in need'

STAFF REPORTER

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S Jagan Mohan Reddy called on his Odisha counterpart Naveen Patnaik at Bhubaneswar on Tuesday. During the meeting, the two Chief Ministers discussed a number of issues of mutual interest, including sharing of water resources, common boundary, energy and Leftwing extremism.

A joint statement said the two Chief Ministers had a very cordial and fruitful meeting on Tuesday. "Both States not only share borders but



Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy calling on Naveen Patnaik in Bhubaneswar on Tuesday.

also a long and glorious history and heritage. At times of need, both States have extended full cooperation and assistance, a fact borne out during the natural disasters in the past," said the joint

The two governments also decided to work closely

#### on resolving the issues relating to jurisdiction of Kotia group of villages, Naredi Barrage, Ianihavati Reservoir, Polavaram, release of water for the Bhahuda river and mutual no objection certificate for the Balimela and Upper Sileru hydel projects.

They resolved to extend support towards tackling the problem of Left-wing extremism and ganja cultivation.

It was also decided to work towards setting up a Chair for Odia and Telugu languages in B.R. Ambedkar University, Srikakulam, and Berhampur University, respectively.

They also agreed to appoint language teachers in schools in border districts of

### Council polls in Karnataka, Telangana on December 10

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Elections to 25 Legislative Council seats in Karnataka and 12 in Telengana will be held on December 10. The results will be declared on

December 14. Notification for the elections will be issued on November 16.

November 23 will be the last date for filing nominations. The last date for withdrawal of candidature is November 26.

The model code of conduct will come into effect immediately.

The Election Commission on Tuesday announced the biennial election to the Council from 20 local authorities' constituencies for 25 seats in Karnataka.

The elections are being seen as a big opportunity for the BJP to get a majority in the 75-member House, and comes after the bitterly contested by elections to Hangal and Sindgi Assembly constituencies.

Currently, the Upper House has 32 BJP members, 29 Congress members, and 12 Janata Dal (Secular) members, one Independent member, and the Chairman.

Telangana schedule The Election Commission

has issued schedule for election of 12 members in nine districts of Telangana under the local authorities' constituencies. The term of the sitting

members is set to expire on January 4 next year.

The ruling Telangana Rashtra Samithi which won all the zilla parishads across the State and with a majority of the electorate, including MPTCs, ZPTCs, ward members and others under its fold, is widely expected to retain all these

### Introspect, ex-Minister tells Muslims

Rahman Khan's book suggests reforms and ways to foster inter-community ties

NAGESH PRABHU

While the plight of Indian Muslims during Partition has been widely debated, it is their role in socio-economic spheres and politics, particularly during elections, that calls for attention, says a new book.

Veteran Congress leader and former Union Minister K. Rahman Khan's latest book Indian Muslims: The Way Forward, reflects on the present socio-economic conditions of Indian Muslims political their leadership.

The four-time Rajya Sabha member and former Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman, Dr. Khan argues that Muslims should concentrate on educational and economic development and not "allow themselves to wallow in victimhood syndrome." Despite their numbers and resourc-



Rahman Khan

es, the author feels Muslims are themselves responsible for their socio-economic and educational backwardness.

### Two disputes

Referring to the Shah Bano case and the Babri Masjid demolition, Dr. Khan asks, "What did the Muslims get at the end of these two disputes?" Muslims should stop blaming others for their present plight, he says and urges them to engage in serious introspection. The book, published by Chennai-based

Notion Press, suggests various practical reforms, and ways of harmonious intercommunity relations.

Speaking to *The Hindu* about the book, Dr Khan said Muslims have been traditionally backing the Congress, but "the party has not been able to build a credible political leadership in the community." Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who fought for the country's freedom and served as a Minister in Jawaharlal Nehru's Cabinet, was the "last acceptable leader for all sections of Muslims," he said.

On considering Muslims as a vote-bank during elections by political parties, Dr. Khan argued that it was a misnomer to consider the community, with a population of more than 200 million, a "minority". "Don't consider yourself a minority, empower yourself and be

part of India," the author

The community supported the Congress because of its secular ideology and firm belief in democracy. With the Congress losing power in many States, the author said the community explored alternatives and supported the SP and the BSP in Uttar Pradesh and the Trinamool Congress in West Bengal. Moving forward, Dr. Khan

said the community should evolve a strong political leadership to formulate the democratic space of Indian Muslims as equal citizens and chalk out a strategy to assert their place in the country's political power structures. Besides the failure to provide good political leadership, Dr. Khan said, the community had also not been able to provide good religious leadership owing to many factions.

### Liquor shops a source of nuisance, says Kerala HC

'They cause great trouble to those living in the vicinity'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The Kerala High Court on Tuesday observed that it wanted to ensure that teetotallers are spared of the problems that arise due to the functioning of liquor shops near their residence or due to long queues in front of the

Justice Devan Ramachandran, while hearing a contempt of court case relating to the shifting of a liquor shop, observed that it was an open secret that every shop caused great vexation to children and women and parents feared that it would be a bad influence on the future generation. Therefore, instances of extreme nuisance being caused in the neighbourhood of a liquor shop could not be lost sight of. It

A heady cocktail in Visakha Agency



People waiting to buy liquor in the Kerala capital. ■FILE РНОТО

impeached on the Constitu-

tional right of the citizen to live a life with dignity.

Plan for 175 new outlets Meanwhile, S. Kannan, senior government pleader appearing for the Excise Commissioner, submitted that the Kerala State Beverages Corporation (Bevco) had requested the Government to sanction 175 new liquor shops in the State. He said that compared to the area and population of the State with that of neighbouring States, the number of outlets in the State -306 – was less. As a result, large-scale rush was witnessed during peak hours in front of the shops.

Ranjith Thampan, senior counsel for Bevco, submitted that the only solution to the problem was to have walk-in counters with sufficient parking space.

### KCR trying to divert focus from Huzurabad poll loss

Union Minister attacks Telangana CM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy on Tuesday hit back at Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao saying the Telangana Rashtra Samithi leader's recent attacks on the BJP and the Centre had been an attempt to divert attention from his party's loss in the Huzurabad bypoll.

Mr. Rao said on Sunday the Centre had no moral right to ask States to reduce VAT on petrol and diesel and accused it of lying about the increase in crude oil prices internationally. He also hit out at the Centre for not procuring paddy and threw his support behind the farmers' protest.

Reacting to the allega-

tions, Mr. Reddy said the Centre had paid the entire cost of procuring raw rice grains. The Centre had procured 40,000 lakh tonnes of raw rice from Telangana but the State wanted the Centre to buy more parboiled rice, the procurement of which had been reduced due to lack of demand. He said the Centre had

been communicating with the Telangana Government for the past few years to discourage parboiled rice production. "The Telangana Government failed to explain it to the rice millers." In response to Mr. Rao's

allegation that the BJP labels its critics "urban Naxals", Mr. Reddy said: "That is not true. Give one such exam-

### SUMIT BHATTACHARJEE

The weed is being extensively grown

in areas where Maoists hold sway

Visakhapatnam is known for its salubrious climate, tranquil beaches, peaceful social fabric, Central public sector units, educational institutions and cosmopolitan culture. But of late, the district has gained notoriety as the "ganja hub" of the country.

In the district, about nine of the 11 mandals that fall under the thickly forested area of the Eastern Ghats, which is known as the Agency area, are into ganja cultivation. The traditional crops such as turmeric, ginger, rajma and millets have given way to this weed, the seed of which was first sown by smugglers from Kerala and Tamil Nadu about

four decades back. Today, as per a conservative estimate by the Excise Department, it is grown on over 7,000 to 10,000 acres spread over 150 to 200 villages in the nine mandals. As per S.V.V.N. Babji Rao,

Deputy Commissioner, Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB), the crop is being grown extensively in mandals where the banned CPI (Maoist) holds sway It is estimated that one

acre yields about one tonne of ganja a year, which could mean an average yield of 7,000-10,000 tonnes per annum. Its value runs into hundreds of crores of rupees. The trade has come into focus of late as the enforce-

ment agencies have started

to look at the issue seriously

following reports from other

States which say the smug-

Striking at the root: Officials destroying ganja plants at G.Madugula in Visakhapatnam in October. glers caught in raids confess that they had procured the stuff from Visakhapatnam.

5,000 arrested in 2 years The weed grown here has a booming market across India. Though it is procured by middlemen from farmers at about ₹2,000 per kg, it has a market value ranging from ₹7,000 to ₹15,000 in the upcountry market, according to a senior police officer. The pan-India presence is

established by the fact that out of about 5,000 accused arrested in the last two years, over 50% are from other States, said SP, Visakhapatnam, B. Krishna Rao.

The smuggling network was developed over the years by the middlemen from Tamil Nadu and Kerala, who made the initial foray

### traps found Seven booby traps allegedly

Seven booby

laid by Maoists were unearthed by the police in Chintoor Agency in the Mallampeta forest area bordering Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Tuesday. On October 8, 10 booby traps were found in the same forest area.

and now it is a well-oiled machinery, which includes the local people. Though the Maoists deny

any links with the trade, the fact that it is grown right in their hotbed waters down their claim. "They are mixing extremism and narcotics with dexterity and it has been established that they get a cut in the trade," said DGP Gautam Sawang.

### Caught in the crossfire

India and Pakistan must ensure that fishermen are not victims of a deterioration in ties

n Indian fisherman was killed in firing by the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) off the ▲ Gujarat coast on November 7. This is the first such killing by the PMSA in the last six years though conflicts over fishing rights are not infrequent along the International Maritime Boundary Line between the two countries. Six other fishermen have reportedly been detained, while one injured person managed to return to Indian shores. India has termed Pakistan's action deplorable and "in contravention to all established international practices and bilateral understandings". On Monday, the Ministry of External Affairs summoned a Pakistani diplomat who was asked to investigate the incident and instruct its forces to refrain from unprovoked firing. According to the Gujarat government, a total of 345 fishermen from the State were lodged in Pakistan jails as on December 2020. In April 2020, Pakistani forces opened fire on two boats off the Gujarat coast injuring one person, and in 2019 they sunk an Indian boat in which six of seven fishermen onboard were rescued. One person went missing. Fishermen often get caught in the fluctuating fate of the bilateral relations between the two countries, which is currently at a low.

According to the National Fishworkers Forum, there are 558 Indian fishermen in Pakistani jails, and 74 from Pakistan in Indian prisons. The Forum calculates that 1,200 Indian fishing vessels are in Pakistan's custody. The families of these imprisoned people are in penury. Consular access to those in prison is difficult. Only 295 of the 558 prisoners in Pakistan could have their nationality verified. In 2007, both countries formed a joint judicial committee comprising eight retired judges four each from India and Pakistan - to facilitate the exchange of civilian prisoners. The mechanism has been defunct since 2013, and attempts to revive it in 2018 did not bear fruit. Civilians along international borders often get caught in disputes between countries, and India has several such hotspots, on land and in sea. Even fishermen venturing near the India-Sri Lanka maritime border often fall victim though both countries maintain cordial bilateral ties. Many Indian villages along the borders with Myanmar and Bangladesh also become theatres of conflict, as communities often find it difficult to reconcile with international borders that divide their traditional spheres of economic and social activities. Pakistan has aggressively sponsored violence in India, and terrorists trained by its agencies sailed in a hijacked Indian fishing boat in 2008 to Mumbai. It is a tragedy that ordinary people could end up in a foreign prison while trying to earn their livelihood. India and Pakistan must consider this as a humanitarian crisis and work towards resolving it. And, both countries must avoid any escalation in tensions on account of the latest incident.

### Overlapping interests

The U.P. police are making heavy weather of the task of probing farmers' deaths fairly

The Supreme Court of India continues to question the tardy progress in the ongoing probe into the October 3 violence during a farmers' protest at Tikonia in Lakhimpur-Kheri district, a situation that reflects poorly on the Uttar Pradesh police and administration. In its latest expression of dissatisfaction, the Court has indicated that it would like a retired High Court judge to monitor the investigation and has sought the State government's response. The Court's apprehensions are not without basis. A large number of witnesses coming forward ostensibly to help the police have ended up giving "exculpatory evidence", that is, their statements are in favour of some suspects. Another source of doubt about the fairness of the probe is that an overlap is being sought to be created between two FIRs registered in relation to the incidents: one relating to the mowing down of four farmers and a journalist covering the event by vehicles suspected to be part of the convoy of Ashish Mishra, son of Union Minister Ajay Mishra; and another concerning retaliatory violence by the crowd, in which three persons were killed. Counsel for the State government has confirmed at the latest hearing that Raman Kashyap, reporting for a television channel, was indeed run over by a car, with the Court pointing out that an impression was sought to be given earlier that he was lynched by the mob. The idea of having a retired judge to monitor the probe seems to be prompted by the Court's keenness to ensure that the two crimes are not mixed up.

It would be in the public interest to have a judicial mind monitoring the probe. It would also have a salutary effect on the investigation as a precautionary measure against any attempt to dilute or derail the case. It is noteworthy that the judges on the Bench appear to think that some of the developments redound to the benefit of a particular accused. It seems to be an oblique reference to the influential Ashish Mishra. Such an impression will persist as long as the probe seems tardy, and the gathering of evidence is marshalled towards exonerating someone. Both the Union government and the ruling BJP are silent on the continuance of the suspect's father as a Union Minister, a factor that casts a shadow on the investigation. The Court is also not inclined to hand over the probe to the CBI, and is possibly right in holding that view. Recording the statements of witnesses before a judicial magistrate, certifying the electronic evidence available so far, and piecing together the evidence to make a strong case for the prosecution may be a time-consuming job, but what is expected of the State police is not a herculean task. There can be no excuse for allowing the fairness of the probe to come under a shadow of doubt.

### In U.P., a missing tango and the BJP's waltz

If an SP-Congress tie-up fails to materialise, both parties might come to rue the price to pay next year and in 2024



n many ways, the Samajwadi Party (SP) and the Indian Na-⊥tional Congress in Uttar Pradesh make for natural alliance partners. Their social bases complement each other, they do not have too dissimilar an ideological outlook, and have displayed a large degree of consonance in terms of campaign issues. Yet, both parties are presently in the midst of a bruising feud, each accusing the other of colluding with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The SP has termed the Congress as the flip side of the BJP, part of the saffron strategy to confuse the voters, while the Congress has charged the SP with being too afraid of the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Enforcement Directorate to take on the BIP.

#### Incentives for a link

So there is the one fundamental question to ask: why are these two parties so hesitant to commit to a potentially mutually beneficial alliance? The answer to this question might help illuminate the state of Opposition politics in both the State and the country, shaped in fundamental ways by the BJPdominant system. First, let us evaluate the case for the alliance from the point of view of both the

The incentives for the Congress are relatively straightforward. If the last two elections in U.P. are anything to go by, the Congress has been reduced to a 6% voteshare party, with barely any pockets of stronghold. The evidence from the Assembly bypolls and the panchayat elections since then have only reinforced this impression, not to mention the steady stream of Congress leaders exiting the party for greener pastures. A

failure to get into an alliance with a larger party could well mean electoral decimation, in the manner of Delhi and West Bengal. Being the face of the U.P. campaign, it might also irrevocably damage the image of Priyanka Gandhi Vadra - the last remaining 'trump card' of the party. It might be instructive here to remember that the first time Rahul Gandhi became seared with the image of a political novice was after leading the disastrous 2012 campaign in Uttar Pradesh.

The draw for the Samajwadi party is no less compelling. The thrust of the Samajwadi campaign so far has been to make the fight for U.P. a bipolar contest. The trouble is that a direct duel with a party possessing a much larger social base is a losing proposition, minus a wave of massive anti-incumbency which has not surfaced so far. The BIP in Uttar Pradesh is a political behemoth, with a social catchment area ranging from upper castes, non-Yadav Other Backward Classes and non-Jatav Dalits. In a sense, the social base of the party in U.P. is roughly equivalent to a combination of the BJP and the Janata Dal (United) in neighbouring Bihar. The SP, meanwhile, is hamstrung by its traditionally narrow social base, anchored by Yadavs and Muslims.

The SP knows this, and its leader Akhilesh Yadav has spent much of his political career pushing his party to embrace a new umbrella avatar. Even so, the party has not done the hard yards of long-term social engineering: building up community leaders, cultivating caste alliances at the ground level, or immersing itself in new sociopolitical movements. It has now gone for the quickest available route: stitching up alliances with an array of smaller parties. This would, the party hopes, not only boost its electoral arithmetic, but also aid the social acceptability of the SP among the specific caste and community constituents of the smaller parties. Hence, it makes intuitive sense for the SP to



does represent, in a sense, the biggest of the smaller parties of U.P.

What, then, explains the jitters at the prospect of coming together? There are three reasons, all of which reveal one aspect of the electoral and ideological dominance of the BJP.

#### The Congress's decline

First, the decline of the Congress, accelerated as it has in the Narendra Modi era, has reached such a state where, in many States, it is not even a reliable junior partner. The Congress's recent record in grand alliances hardly commends it to any potential suitor. In last year's elections in Bihar, while the Rashtriya Janata Dal and the three Left parties won more than half the seats they contested, the Congress proved to be the fatal weak link. This was not an aberration as the Congress has been the laggard alliance partner in several State elections, from Tamil Nadu in 2016 to Maharashtra in 2019. Of course, Akhilesh Yadav has had personal experience of this phenomenon in the last elections, where the Congress fared considerably worse

than the SP. Meanwhile, the Congress, as a party slowly approaching a condition of existential crisis, fears it can no longer remain trapped in a state of low equilibrium. The mood in the party harks back to the Pachmarhi resolution of 1998, which declared that only those coalitions will be considered which are "absolutely necessary" and that "will not weaken the party". A long running thread in Congress thinking holds that the only clasp the Congress's hand which way for the party to revive its so-

cial base and rejuvenate its organisation is through a period of expansive struggle directed against both the regional parties as well as

#### The BJP's dominance

Second, the BIP's ideological dominance on the issues of religion and nationalism has ensured that success for Opposition parties in State elections depends on the extent to which they can neutralise the salience of 'national' issues and make the election about 'local' issues. The presence of a national party such as the Congress in an Opposition alliance, particularly one which has been the most forthright ideological opponent of the BJP under Rahul Gandhi, hampers such a strategy

The Gandhi siblings display none of the caution of regional leaders such as Akhilesh Yadav in terms of challenging Mr. Modi and making him into an electoral factor. After all, the Congress leadership likely views the U.P. elections, in part, as a springboard to building itself up as the national alternative to the BJP in the next general election.

Third, the BJP's dominance has converted Muslims into a uniquely radioactive political community. The SP party understands that any alliance with the Congress would be painted by the BIP as an 'unholy alliance' cynically aimed at consolidating the 'Muslim votebank'. Even as the Congress has long claimed to have retained a base among Brahmins and non-Jatav Dalits in U.P., it has all but evaporated now. In the 2019 elections, only 6% of Brahmins and 7% of non-Jatav Dalits in Uttar Pradesh backed the party, almost exactly in line with its 6% aggregate voteshare in the State. The only really sizeable support base of the Congress remains among Muslims, with 14% overall choosing the party in 2019, and especially so in seats where the Congress stood a

This is perhaps the most impor- Asim Ali is a political researcher and tant reason why Akhilesh Yadav columnist based in Delhi

has privileged allying with smaller parties such as the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD), Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party (SBSP), Janwadi Party and Mahan Dal over the larger Congress. Since the social base of these parties extends to one or more Hindu caste groups, the SP can cobble them together and portray itself to be the larger 'Hindu alliance'. This alliance strategy is also in harmony with the SP's recent political outreach, where it has aggressively courted non-Yaday OBC castes, the Scheduled Castes, and the Brahmins, but has extended only the most rare and indirect gestures towards Muslims. The political logic behind this approach is that once the party has proven itself to have a support base among Hindus rivalling the BJP, Muslims would automatically flock to it over a third alternative, as shown by the Aam Aadmi Party in Delhi and the Trinamool Congress in West Bengal.

Of course, there is a possibility that the present tiff between the two parties might represent nothing more than adroit jockeying for a larger share in an eventual alliance. In this interlude of brinkmanship, the Congress might be establishing itself as a major player and the SP might be demonstrating itself as the only alternative pole.

However, if this marriage actually fails to materialise, both parties might come to rue the price to pav. A recalcitrant approach from the Congress could prove fatal not just in these elections but also for its hopes of stitching up a joint opposition against the BJP in 2024. The SP, meanwhile, could consider the range of middle-ground options between a no deal with the Congress and the bad deal it had struck last time. For a party that has never broken its 30% voteshare ceiling, facing the BJP in a seemingly bipolar contest, it scarcely has the luxury of spurning partners.

### India needs to sign up for life-course immunisation

The COVID-19 vaccination drive is a reminder that the benefits of many vaccines have yet to reach the adult population +



CHANDRAKANT LAHARIYA

efore the COVID-19 pandemic, most people linked and associated vaccination with children only. The fact is that vaccines – ever since the first vaccine against smallpox became available in 1798 – had always been for a far wider age group, including for adults. However, soon after smallpox eradication and the launch of the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) across the world in the 1970s – and in India in 1978 there were concerted efforts to increase vaccine use and coverage in children. Scientifically, the benefit of most vaccines are greater if administered earlier in life - infancy and childhood – a reason children are usually prioritised and vaccines recommended for every child. For the remaining age groups including adults, vaccines are recommended for specific subgroups such as older people or those with specific health

conditions. The COVID-19 vaccines are exceptions in some sense. These are the first vaccines which have been recommended for all adults, who have been given priority over children. In fact, the jury is still out on whether, which age sub-group and when children should receive CO-

VID-19 vaccines. The importance of vaccines, which are considered to be among the most cost-effective public health interventions, has been recognised globally. Yet, the full benefits of vaccines do not reach all children and other age groups. There are wide inequities in vaccine coverage in children by geography, gender, parent's education and family's socio-economic sta-

tus, and other stratifiers. The coverage of most available vaccines in adults in India is sub-optimal. The COVID-19 vaccination drive is an opportunity to take stock of the status of adult immunisation and the future ahead.

Following the outbreaks of Japanese Encephalitis (IE) in 2005-06 in the years that followed – India had conducted mass scale JE vaccination in the endemic districts, which included the adult age group. Then, there had been a limited use of Swine Flu vaccines for health workers during the H1N1 (2009) pandemic in 2009-10. Other than that, there has been limited focus on the systematic efforts for adult vaccination in India. The first and only national vaccine policy of India, released in 2011, had no mention of adult vaccination. The National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) in India, on a few occasions, discussed adult immunisation but stayed away from any recommendation for the general population except for the vaccination of health workers as high-risk groups, for hepatitis B vaccine,

Outside the Government, professional groups such as the Association of Physicians of India and the Indian Society of Nephrology have released guidelines on adult vaccination; however, as these are voluntary and the private sector share in vaccination in India is very small, understandably, the impact remains unknown and is like-

There is very limited data on the burden of vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) in adult age groups in most settings including India. Lately, review of available data has pointed that the increased childhood vaccination coverage has resulted in proportionately higher cases of VPDs in the older age groups. It is known that the bur-



den of VPDs in adults (in comparison to children) is relatively low: the larger adult population renders a greater social impact in terms of absenteeism from work (due to illnesses) and the associated costs of health care seeking and hospitalisation.

There is emerging scientific evidence on waning immunity and the need of booster doses in the adult age group for the vaccines administered in childhood. The vaccines which have become available in the last two decades (which adults had not received as children), have potential to be beneficial. As an example, there are more deaths due to pneumonia in adults than in children. A proportion of those illnesses, hospitalisations and deaths - in all age groups – can be prevented by increasing coverage of currently licensed vaccines which prevents pneumonia and related complications. Fortunately, these vaccines have become part of childhood vaccination programmes; however, the coverage and benefits need to be expanded to the identified high-risk adult population. The available evidence has resulted in the global stakeholders agreeing to 'the Immunization Agenda 2030' (https://bit.ly/3qlKnH1) which has emphasised that countries should consider extending the benefit of vaccines to all age groups.

### An opportunity in hand

The COVID-19 vaccination drive has drawn our attention to the possibilities of adult vaccination, which should be used effectively.

The initiatives should be taken to educate public, health-care pro-

viders and members of professional associations about currently available vaccines for adult age groups. This can help people to make an informed choice and healthcare providers to share information with citizens. Various training programmes and gradcurricula should be revised to have content on adult vaccination.

The current discourse should be used to plan and develop a national adult vaccination strategy and road map for India. It can be done through a few coordinated efforts.

### The steps to take

First, the mandate of NTAGI needs to be expanded to adult vaccination. NTAGI may start with a review of available scientific evirecommendations on adult vaccination in India. These recommendations can be regularly revisited and revised once additional data become available. A NTAGI subgroup on adult vaccination can also be constituted to facilitate the

Second, the VPD surveillance system and the capacity to record, report and analyse data on the disease burden and immunisation coverage need to be strengthened. The focus has to be on analysing immunisation coverage and VPD surveillance data by age and other related stratifiers.

Third, the capacity of research and academic institutions to conduct operational research including the cost benefit analysis and to guide evidence-informed decisions needs to be boosted. Such analysis and evidence can be used by NTAGI in decision making processes.

Fourth, the process for developing and drafting a road map, possibly India's national adult vaccination policy and strategy should be initiated. Any such policy should factor-in the learnings and lessons

from the ongoing COVID-19 vaccination drive as well. In fact, policy questions in need of the answers should be identified now, and the process to generate evidence started. Otherwise, we may be at risk of asking policy questions 10 years down the line which can be an-

Fifth, on a more operational level, the shortage of life-saving rabies vaccine in India in 2019 is a reminder of the risk and vulnerability in vaccine supply. To ensure vaccine security and be future ready for adult vaccination, the existing public sector vaccine manufacturing units in India should be revived and more need to be set up.

#### **Vaccination policy for adults** The childhood vaccination pro-

gramme is amongst the best performing government health programmes in India. In COVID-19 vaccination, it was the government facilities which have delivered 93%- 95% of total vaccine shots. The COVID-19 vaccination is a reminder that the benefits of already licensed vaccines are yet to reach the adult population. It is an opportunity for health policy makers in India to institutionalise mechanisms to examine the need, take policy decisions on adult vaccination and empower adult citizens to make informed choices on whether they wish to get currently available vaccines. It is time to plan for and expand the benefits of vaccines, for all age groups as part of the Universal Immunization Programme Plus in India. Drafting and developing a national adult vaccination policy and strategy for India could be one such concrete step in this direction.

Chandrakant Lahariya, a physician-epidemiologist, is a vaccines and health systems specialist. His forthcoming book is 'The Lighthouse of Peeragarhi: What We Need To Prevent Diseases And Protect Health'

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

### Court on probe

In view of the murderous attack on the hapless farmers and the violence that erupted subsequently at Lakhmipur-Kheri, it is paramount on the part of the investigating agencies to act with conscience and see

that the inhuman exemplary punishment without falling victim to the dictates of the powers that

This becomes very important in view of the clout and influence the

main accused wields. THARCIUS S. FERNANDO,

Cities and flooding Every Indian city with a dense population faces the risk of getting inundated with rainwater. This is

principally due to poor stormwater drainage which gets clogged because there is no periodical cleaning. If open drainage is no longer permissible, the government of the day must ensure that no waste gets

accumulated. Even the

underground sewerage poses problems during 'non-monsoon' months. In fact, there is no inspection of the drainage system by the authorities concerned. If one heavy shower overnight followed by

incessant heavy drizzle can throw life out of gear, we need the expertise of a foreign expert to set things

right! V. LAKSHMANAN, Tirupur, Tamil Nadu



THE HINDU DELHI WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2021

### India must remain safe for diversity

Nehru's vision is vindicated when we safeguard the common space available to each identity



SHASHI THAROOR

There are three kinds of writers coexisting within Shashi Tharoor, says David Davidar in his introduction to Pride, Prejudice and Punditry: "The writer of newspaper columns, book reviews, and magazine articles; the creator of literary fiction; and the author of heavyweight books of popular history, sociology, and current affairs." This is an edited excerpt of a profile of Jawaharlal Nehru and his idea of India from the book, a collection of the best of Tharoor's fiction and non-fiction:

Jawaharlal Nehru was a skilled exponent of soft power, much before the term was even coined: he developed a role for India in the world based entirely on its civilisational history and its moral standing, making India the voice of the oppressed and the marginalised against the big power hegemons of the day. This gave our country enormous standing and prestige across the world for years, and strengthened our own self-respect as we stood, proud and independent, on the global stage.

Indeed, we are still drawing from these traditions. After all, in the information age, it is not the side with the bigger army that wins, but the side which tells the better story. India must remain the 'land of the better story'. As a society with a free press and a thriving mass media, with a people whose creative energies are daily encouraged to express themselves in a variety of appealing ways, India has an extraordinary ability to tell stories that are more persuasive and attractive than those of its rivals. This is not about propaganda; indeed, it will not work if it is directed from above, least of all by government. But its impact, though intangible, can be huge. This soft power, too, is Nehru's legacy; he created a standing for India out of all proportion to our military strength or economic might.

Yet soft power is not just what we can deliberately and consciously exhibit or put on display; it is rather how others see what we are, whether or not we are trying to show it to the



Former PM Nehru with Austrian Chancellor Julius Raab. • THE HINDU ARCHIVES

world. It is not just material accomplishments that enhance India's soft power. Even more important are the values and principles for which India stands, and I do believe Nehru would have applauded this evolution of his own approach to world affairs.

#### **Absorbing transformations**

India has in recent years undergone profound transformations in its politics (from the dominant Congress system to a proliferation of regional parties to the dominance of the now-ascendant Bharatiya Janata Party), its economics (from a controlled 'socialist' economy to a thriving, if mixed, free-enterprise system), its trade (from protectionism to globalisation and perhaps partially back again), and its social relations (from a rigidly hierarchical caste system to a more egalitarian policy affirming opportunities and outcomes for the 'lowest' castes, and from a secular political culture to one in which a party of the Hindu majority is overtly asserting its strength). Now, any of these transformations could have been enough to throw another country into a turbulent revolution. But we have had all four in India and yet we have absorbed them, and made all the changes work, because the Indian revolution is a democratic one, sustained by a larger idea of India, an India which safeguards the common space available to each identity, an India that remains safe for diversity. That was Nehru's vision, and this is his vindication.

The truth is that Nehru's extraordinary life and career is part of the inheritance of every Indian. The very term 'Indian' was imbued with such

Even the most distinguished leader of the BJP has in the past – despite many areas of disagreement - acknowledged the legacy of Nehru as a champion of the country. Speaking in Parliament on Nehru's death, Atal Bihari Vajpayee declared emotionally – and poetically – that with the prime minister's passing 'a dream has remained half-fulfilled, a song has become silent, and a flame has vanished into the Unknown. The dream was of a world free of fear and hunger; the song a great epic resonant with the spirit of the Gita and as fragrant as a rose, the flame a candle which burnt all night long, showing us the way.' The loss, Vajpayee averred, was not merely that of a family or even of a party. Mother India, he said, was in mourning because 'her beloved Prince has gone to sleep'; even humanity was sad because its servant and worshipper had left it forever. Vajpayee went on to describe the departed prime minister as a 'benefactor of the downtrodden' and the 'chief actor of the world stage' whom he compared to none less than Lord Ram, for like Valmiki's (and the Hindutvavadis') hero, Nehru was 'the orchestrator of the impossible and inconceivable'. He too (I'm still quoting Vajpayee) 'was not afraid of compromise but would never compromise under duress'.

One might say that these words were only to be expected from a gracious adversary in tribute to a deceased prime minister. But Vajpayee's statements went far beyond the claims of ritual. He called on the nation to rededicate itself to Nehru's ideals. 'With unity, discipline and self confidence,' Vajpayee said, in words that could never have been Narendra Modi's, 'we must make this Republic of ours flourish. The leader has gone, but the followers remain. The sun has set, yet by the shadow of stars we must find our way. These are testing times, but we must dedicate ourselves to his great aim, so that India can become strong, capable and prosperous....'

This remains the cherished goal of all Indians. As we make our political choices, we would do well to recall the first leader of independent India and the values and principles on which he built our democratic polity.

Excerpted with permission from Aleph Book Company. Shashi Tharoor is a Congress MP

### There are shades of equality

The Kerala government's decision to reserve a higher proportion of scholarships for Muslims is justified



THULASI K. RAI & BASTIAN STEUWER

Assume that in a classroom, a teacher is faced with students with differing command over the English language. There are three groups: some students are excellent, some require minimal guidance, and some others, a lot of attention. The teacher decides to give a special class of half an hour for the second group and a class for two hours for the third. Since the first group needs no additional support, they won't be given any. Is the teacher wrongfully discriminating among her students? Most of us would think that she is not. Treating students at different levels in the same way would do little to help those who lag behind. Those students could benefit from some support to catch up with those ahead. This is the idea behind affirmative action and reasonable accommodation: to enable those who are worse off to become on par with others.

What is true in the classroom context is also true in a policy context. The controversy around the award of scholarships to minority students in Kerala illustrates this. The dispute surrounds the question of how scholarships for minority students should be distributed between different minority groups. On October 29, the Supreme Court issued notice on an appeal of the Kerala government against a High Court order directing it to award the scholarships by the proportion of minorities in the overall population of the State.

#### **Minority scholarships**

The background of the decision is as follows. The Kerala government passed an executive order in 2015 prescribing that minority communities will be entitled to scholarships. Of the scholarships, 80% were distributed to Muslim students and 20% to Latin Catholics and converted Christians. In Justine Pallivathukkal v. State of Kerala (2021), the Kerala High Court set aside this order holding that all minorities must be treated alike. Hence, it held that the only relevant criterion is the minority groups' share of the population.

The government argued that its policy was based on the findings of the Sachar Committee report and the Kerala Padana report on the disadvantages faced by Muslims. It pointed out that Muslims were far behind Christians, Dalits and Adivasis in college enrolment, just as they are in employment and land ownership. Besides, studies on discrimination in labour and housing markets reveal that Muslims experience substantial levels of discrimination when applying for jobs or housing, often even more than Dalits.

#### **Equalising access**

All of this underlines the point that some minorities face greater obstacles than others. Scholarships for minority students are a form of affirmative action. The aim is to facilitate students from these communities to study, and reduce the inequalities between different communities. If that is the goal, the only sensible policy is one which identifies the most disadvantaged groups. This is exactly what the Kerala government did.

Hence, reserving a higher proportion of scholarships for Muslims is justified. The different kinds of backwardness of a community must be considered while awarding scholarship schemes. Any other scheme defeats the purpose of offering scholarships to students from minority communities. The High Court prohibited an allocation sensitive to social realities by adopting a form of blind equality approach. This was a mistake. This is not in consonance with the constitutional and just vision of equality, a vision which needs to be mindful of social inequalities. As the Supreme Court rightly noted in B. K. Pavitra v. Union of India (2019), "For equality to be truly effective or substantive, the principle must recognise existing inequalities in society to overcome them."

It is important, therefore, that the Supreme Court corrects the error of the High Court. This case will be significant for constitutional law. It will determine how representation is understood in the law on reservations. The High Court's reasoning suggests that access to the benefits of affirmative action must follow an approach which is blind to the relative backwardness of different communities. This is dangerous in the Indian context. One of Ambedkar's great insights was that the caste system is a form of graded inequality. Even when we identify disadvantaged castes or communities, we need to remember the forms of inequality and hierarchy among them. The logic of the High Court's judgment forbids this. It tells us that once we identify the beneficiaries of measures of affirmative action, we need to treat everyone alike regardless of any inequalities or hierarchies between them. We should not let such bad reasoning obstruct affirmative efforts to remove inequality. The fight against inequality is too important for that.

Thulasi K. Rai is a lawyer at the Supreme Court and Bastian Steuwer is a political philosopher at Rutgers

### STATE OF PLAY

### The cost of BJP's tug of war

The Rajasthan bypolls serve as a lesson for the BJP on leadership, unity and ticket distribution

MOHAMMED IQBAL

The rift has widened in the Rajasthan unit of the BJP after the party's defeat in the recent Assembly bypolls to the Dhariawad and Vallabhnagar seats, where the party's candidates were pushed to the third and fourth position, respectively. The BJP will be forced to introspect on this loss and find a way forward for the 2023 Assembly election.

mainly to the wrong selection of can-

#### Rival camps The BJP's defeat has been attributed

didates and the party's failure to give a convincing reply to the voters' questions on price rise. But the loss could also be attributed to the massive infighting in the party. The rival camps in the party are led by BJP State president Satish Poonia and former Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje. After defeats in successive bypolls, Ms. Raje's loyalists have been demand-**RAJASTHAN** ing that she be brought to the centre-stage and projected as the party's face for the next elections. Not only was Ms. Raje sidelined during the exercise to choose the contestants, but the sentiments of local party workers in the two constituencies were also largely disregarded. Ms. Raje did not visit the two constituencies during the election campaign and attributed her absence to her daughter-in-law's ill

According to political observers, the BJP's top leadership, which had marginalised Ms. Raje, will have to consider ways of bringing her back to infuse energy among the party workers. The formation of a new outfit in support of Ms. Raje earlier this year had created ripples in the political circles in the State, with its officebearers urging that she be appointed Chief Minister in the event of the party's victory in the 2023 election. Since the formation of the Congress government in 2018, Ms. Raje has remained silent on the issues of the State and avoided making public appearances.

Two of Ms. Raje's loyalists - former MLAs Prahlad Gunial and Bhawani Singh Rajawat – have questioned the party's defeat in the bypolls and demanded that the leadership mantle be handed over to her. Mr. Gunjal said the present leadership should not only accept responsibility for the defeat, but also realise that only Ms. Raje is capable of competing with a strong Congress leader like Ashok Gehlot. About 20 MLAs loyal to Ms. Raje recently wrote to the BIP State president alleging bias in the Assembly proceedings. The BJP had earlier expelled former Minister Rohitash Sharma, considered close to Ms. Raje, from the primary membership for six years on the ground of breach of party discipline. However, the anti-Raje camp asks why she should be brought back when the

gress has attacked the BJP, saying the party is a divided force and its multiple leaders are eyeing the chief ministerial post. Speculations have been rife about Ms. Raje's growing differences with the BJP's State leadership and the increasing clout of the party's central leaders in the State. Denying rumours of factionalism, Mr. Poonia has been trying to shift focus to the ruling Congress, which has also been embroiled in infighting. This came to the fore last year when a rebellion was staged by the then Deputy Chief Minister Sachin Pilot and some MLAs. Mr. Poonia has said that the Congress is using Rajasthan to save

party lost the 2018 elections un-

Meanwhile, the Con-

der her leadership.

pocrisy" The BJP has secured only one seat in the seven bypolls held in the State since the last Assembly election. While the Congress also has issues, it put up a united front for the elections. These bypolls serve as a lesson for the BIP on leadership, unity and ticket distribution.

its credibility and its support to the

farmers agitating against the three

farm laws amounted to "political hy-

mo hammed. iqbal @thehindu. co. in

### **DATA POINT**

### Unburden the police On November 3, the Tamil Nadu Head Constable, so that they can care of their health and spend time with their families. The move was necessitated by the fact that one in two police personnel in India do not get weekly offs, according

Prejudice and

Shashi Tharoo

Aleph Book

Punditry

meaning by Nehru that it is impossi-

ble to use it without acknowledging a

debt: our passports incarnate his

ideals. Where those ideals came

from, whether they were brought to

fulfilment by their own progenitor,

and to what degree they remain via-

ble today, are all legitimate issues for

debate. Nehru's impact on India is

too great not to be re-examined pe-

riodically. His legacy is ours, wheth-

er we agree with everything he stood

for or not. What we are today, both

for good and for ill, we owe in great

measure to one man. That is why his

legacies are fundamentally contest-

ed, and many Indians have strayed

from the ideals bequeathed to them

by Gandhi and Nehru, Ambedkar

and Patel. Yet they, in their very diffe-

rent ways, each represented that rare

kind of leader who is not diminished

by the inadequacies of his followers.

Today, the ruling BJP and its follow-

ers lose no opportunity to denigrate

Nehru, especially on social media,

accusing him of every conceivable

sin of both commission and omis-

sion. It is like throwing pebbles at a

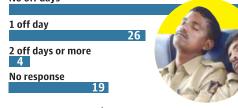
mountain. They cannot even begin

to dent the scale of his contributions

Today, both Gandhi's and Nehru's

story is not simply history.

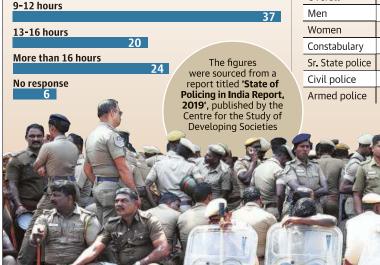
to a 2019 survey. On average, 80% of the force work more than eight hours a day. Nearly seven in 10 personnel also reported that a higher workload took a toll on their physical and mental health and prevented



working hours of police personnel in India. Nearly 80% of the force said they were on duty for more than eight hours a day. Eight hours is the maximum limit suggested by the Model Police Act. Close to 44% worked for more than 12 hours, while about 25% reported working for more than 16 hours a day. Only 13% said they worked up to eight hours

Up to 8 hours (Model Police Act)

9-12 hours 13-16 hours More than 16 hours The figures were sourced from a report titled 'State of



### Poor work-life balance

About 56% of family members of the police force reported that they had not been on a long holiday in the past two to three years. About 68% said they had not been on a pilgrimage in the past two to three years. And 41% reported that

Had not been on a long they had not visited their relatives out of town

Had not Had not relatives

Workload effects | The table lists the impact of long working hours on the police force. Overall, 76% of the personnel reported that a high workload made it difficult for them to perform their duties well. More than 80% of the force said that the workload made it difficult for them to devote time to their families. As many as 73% said the workload took a toll on their physical and mental health

Personnel	Workload makes it difficult to do the job well	Not able to devote enough time to family	Workload is affecting physical and mental health			
Overall	76	84	73			
Men	75	84	74			
Women	77	84	73			
Constabulary	76	84	73			
Sr. State police	75	86	75			
Civil police	78	85	74			
Armed police	69	80	70			
ALL FIGURES ARE IN %						

### The Man Prindu.

### FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 10, 1971

### Normal ties with China: P.M.'s offer

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, said to-day [Paris, November 9] that India was prepared to resume normal relations with China and exchange ambassadors without waiting for a solution of the border problem between the two countries. Asked at her press conference whether India would make use of French good offices for resumption of normal diplomatic relations with China, Mrs. Gandhi pointed out that India had diplomatic relations at the level of 'Charge d'Affaires'. "We have no objection to an exchange of ambassadors and we hope this will be done. If the French Government can help, we have no objection to that," the Prime Minister added. Earlier, she was asked whether India was ready to resume normal relations with China on the basis of the status quo on the border and in regard to the Akasi Chin area. "This is a question that could be discussed. So far as normalisation of relations is concerned, I made a statement immediately after I became Prime Minister in 1966," Mrs. Gandhi said. (Mrs. Gandhi said in 1966 that she would maintain the friendliest relations with the neighbouring countries). Mrs. Gandhi in reply to questions said that as far as she knew both France and the United States had cut off arms aid to Pakis-

### A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOV. 10, 1921

### **Indian Situation**

London, November 8: Lord Chelmsford reading a paper on India at a meeting of the Colonial Institute over which the Marquess of Crewe presided, said that the problem of the status of Indians in the Dominions and Colonies would not be solved by fiery speeches or by impatient handling, but by patient exploration of facts and steady pressure by the Government of India. Lord Chelmsford believed that the Government of India would never recede from the principle which he laid down in a speech at the beginning of 1920 that there was no justification in a Crown Colony or Protectorate for assigning to British Indians a status in any way inferior to any other class of His Majesty's subjects. Lord Chelmsford hoped that India would have faith in the Government and would leave it for them to press patiently and persistently for its fulfilment. Referring to Non-Co-operation, Lord Chelmsford said that the foolish and impracticable character of the movement was obvious.

The chart shows the average weekly offs police personnel get in India. One in two personnel said they did not get weekly offs while 26% reported that they get one day off a week as mandated in the Model Police Act No off days

**Working hours** | The chart shows the average

them from performing their job effectively.

The Hindu Data Team

### Weekly offs

#### FROM PAGE ONE

### 'Why is MHA monitoring foreign funds for NGOs?'

Mr. Mehta said the people at the helm of these organisations should be known, and the MHA was best placed to do that. Identification of the recipients of foreign funds were known via the Aadhaar system - a precaution introduced by the statute itself. The amendments were introduced to prevent NGOs from acting as "middlemen" between foreign contributors and local, unregistered

"You cannot become a commission agent for just receiving and distributing foreign funds after retaining 20% of the funds for 'administrative' expenses. If you are so influential that you can successfully encourage people abroad to send money, then you can advise them that 'here are 10 NGOs who are doing good work and you can send money to them directly'... You cannot act as a middleman," Mr. Mehta argued.

Senior advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, for the petitioners, said the act of an NGO to apportion the funds received from abroad to organisations working on the ground cannot be termed "commercial".

The law mandated that NGOs use foreign funds they received for the registered purposes or activities - social, educational, religious, cultural and economic - of their existence.

Mr. Mehta said the amendments have been introduced to "strengthen the

objectives. articles in their association.

#### **Fund inflow**

The Solicitor General stated that the government earlier had no way of knowing about the inflow and outflow of foreign funds. The onus had been on NGOs to offer the government information about their foreign contributions.

Justice Khanwilkar asked whether foreign funds received for one registered purpose, say educational, could be used for another registered objective of the NGO, say cultural or religious. The court asked whether using the money meant for one purpose for another, even though the latter objective was registered, would "dilute" the

"NGOs engaged in educational activities like teaching of Sanskrit or Urdu may also fall within the ambit of 'religious activity'," Mr. Mehta explained.

The court reserved the case for judgment.

### U.K. includes Covaxin

to its list of vaccines

As a result of the expansion of the list, the U.K. now recognises - Pfizer BioNTech. Oxford AstraZeneca (including India's Covishield), Moderna and Janssen (Johnson and Johnson) and WHO EUL that includes Sinovac, Sinopharm Beijing and Covaxin.

"Passengers who have been fully vaccinated and have received their vaccine

certificate from one of over 135 approved countries and territories are not required to take a pre-departure test, day 8 test or self-isolate upon arrival. Instead, passengers will just need to pay for a lateral flow test to take before the end of their second day, post-arrival," declared the announcement from the U.K. Government.

hi Vadra, Robert Vadra, all say that I need commis-

sion," Mr. Patra alleged.

### Congress, BJP trade charges on Rafale

And in doing so, it has undermined national security, jeopardised the interests of the armed forces and caused a loss of ₹41,000 crore to the exchequer, he alleged.

"The corruption can be tracked to PM Modi's own doorstep," he said. The evidence in this case, he added, had first came up on October 4, 2018, when two former Union Ministers of BIP - Arun Shourie and Yashwant Sinha – submitted a file to then CBI Director Alok Verma. On October 11 the Attorney General of Mauritius also sent documents about the middleman Sushen Gupta.

However, at a press conference at the BJP headquarters, spokesperson Sambit Patra accused the Congress, especially Rahul Gandhi who has been alleging corruption in the purchase of the fighter aircraft by the Modi government, of spreading "canard, disinformation and lies".

Mr. Patra also sought Mr. Gandhi's response to the fresh revelations by Mediapart, according to whose investigation, Dassault Aviation paid the kickbacks to the intermediary in Mauritius between 2007 and 2012 putting it in the time frame when the Congress-led UPA

says that 'corruption, influence-peddling and favouritism' marked the deal during the UPA government," he noted and said, "It will not be an exaggeration to say that the INC be renamed as 'I Need Commission'. Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandmechanism, enhance transparency and accountability". It was noticed before the amendments came only a miniscule portion of the foreign funds were actually used by NGOs for their regisamendments helped the government keep watch and ensure that NGOs were getting and spending foreign contributions for the "definite programmes" spelt out

### Samyukt Kisan Morcha takes its fight back to Parliament Starting Nov. 29, farmers will hold daily marches to the House during winter session SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

One year after launching a mass protest against the three contentious farm reform laws, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha is taking its fight back to Parliament, with plans to hold daily tractor marches to Sansad Bhavan during the winter session.

In a decision taken at a general body meeting of the SKM on Tuesday, farm unions said they would assert their right to protest within the national capital and send 500 selected volunteers in tractor trollies to Parliament every day from November 29 until the end of the session. They will move "peacefully and with full discipline," it

It said the move is to "increase the pressure manifold on this obstinate, insensitive, anti-people and procorporate BJP Central Government to force it to concede the demands for which farmers across the country have launched a historic struggle for one year".

The SKM's protest on the outskirts of Delhi began on November 26.

After two months camped on the city's borders, farmers entered the capital with



met soon. ■FILE PHOTO

their tractors on Republic Day, with some groups clashing violently with police as they deviated from planned routes and headed towards the Red Fort and central

In July, during the monsoon session, the SKM was allowed to re-enter the city in groups of 200 farmers in buses heavily guarded by the police to hold a parallel Kisan Sansad just a kilometre away from the official proceedings.

Govt.'s obstinance

In the run-up to the first anniversary, several members of the SKM have expressed

impatience with the Government's intransigence, with popular Uttar Pradesh leader Rakesh Tikait of the Bharatiya Kisan Union giving an ultimatum that the agitation would be intensified if the demands were not met by November 26.

Over the weekend, the Haryana unions met and decided to propose that the SKM either march to Parliament or gherao the Prime Minister's residence to mark the occasion.

Instead, the SKM has decided to mobilise farmers at the Delhi borders and State capitals for mahapanchayats on the day which is also observed as Constitution Day. The Centre says the three new laws, which have now been suspended from implementation by the Supreme Court, are essential to reform agricultural marketing

and provide choices to

farmers.

Farmers' demands Critics claim the laws will dilute the procurement of

crops at minimum support prices and benefit large corporates to the detriment of small farmers.

Apart from a full repeal of the laws, the SKM is demanding a legal guarantee of MSP for all farm produce.



In pain: Family members mourn outside the mortuary of Hamidia Hospital on Tuesday, after the fire in Kamla Nehru

### Fire safety audit sought in children's hospitals

Four infants died in Bhopal facility

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) wrote to Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories on Tuesday asking for a fire safety audit of all medical facilities for children, in the wake of a fire accident at a Bhopal hospital that killed four infants.

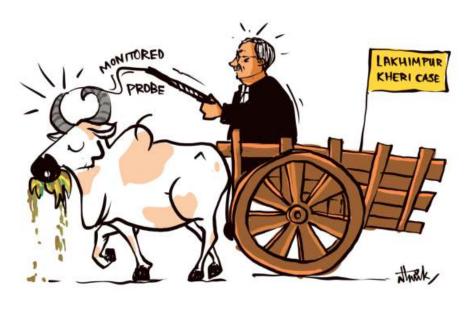
In a separate letter to Chief Secretary, Madhya Pradesh, Iqbal Singh Bains, the panel has demanded details of the last no-objection certificate and audit. It has also instructed that those children shifted out of Kamla Nehru Children's Hospital be given special care in other hospitals.

"NCPCR recommends that to prevent recurrence of fire incidents in hospitals, fire safety audits should be undertaken in all the hospitals/medical colleges/nursing homes having NICU (neo-natal intensive care unit), PICU (paediatric intensive care unit), SNCU (special newborn care units) and other medical facilities for children," wrote its Chairperson, Priyank Kanoongo.

CM promises action

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Tuesday said the fire at the hospital in the State capital on Monday was a result of "criminal negligence", and the guilty would not be spared.

### On the draw



### SC Collegium clears transfer of Madras HC CJ to Meghalaya

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court collegium has recommended the transfer of Madras High Court Chief Justice Sanjib Banerjee to the Meghalaya High Court. It also recommended the transfer of Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari from the Allahabad High Court to the Madras High Court.

Resolutions for both the recommendations passed by the Collegium on September 16 but were made public only on Tues-

day. Chief Justice Banerjee, hailing from West Bengal, had assumed charge in the Madras High Court on January 4, 2021 and is due to retire from service on November 1, 2023.

A similar recommendation made by the Supreme Court in 2019 to transfer the then Madras High Court Chief Justice Vijaya Kamlesh Tahilramani to the much smaller Meghalaya High Court had created a furore among the legal fraternity. When her plea for reconsideration was rejected, Justice

Tahilramani chose to put in her papers. Justice Bhandari, who had

been recommended to be transferred to the Madras High Court, hails from Rajasthan.

He was transferred to the Allahabad High Court on March 15, 2019 and is due to retire from service on September 12, 2022.

He is now the senior most judge of Allahabad High Court and had been its Acting Chief Justice too between June 26, 2021 and October

### Modi to visit U.P. several times in next few weeks

Projects planned in poll-bound State

NISTULA HEBBAR

Mr. Khera alleged that in-Uttar Pradesh as always is stead of following the moexpected to be the star turn ney trail, Mr. Verma was removed in middle of the in the next set of Assembly polls set for early 2022, and night and a raid conducted at the CBI headquarters. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be visiting the "This was part of the con-State four times in the next certed conspiracy to bury the Rafale ghost," he said. month-and-a-half to launch and inaugurate projects worth over ₹1 lakh crore in Mr, Khera pointed out that on March 26, 2019, the

the State. Enforcement Directorate (ED) raided Mr. Gupta in On November 16, he will be dedicating the Gorakhconnection with another pur-Poorvanchal expresscase. "Is it not correct that way to the nation, which the ED recovered a horde of cost around ₹ 42,000 crore top secret Defence Ministry and is 340.82 km long. documents from Mr. Gup-Sources told *The Hindu* that ta," he asked. "Why did the ED not puran Air Force plane may land sue these evidences further on the expressway to attest

to the quality of the conto investigate the scam? Why did the Modi governstruction. He will also be laying the ment then not take action foundation stones for the against Dassault, the political executive or the defence newly commissioned Jhevar ministry officers who leaked airport near Noida on November 25. the documents? Which On November 19, Mr. Mo-'Chowkidar' sold India's na-

tional secrets," Mr. Khera di will be in Jhansi and he will participate in a programme related to the 193rd 'Deal within deal' birth anniversary of the late Rani Laxmibai of Jhansi. A The UPA government had a

against its ruling family and

its members were driven by

Mr. Patra also said the al-

leged middleman Sushen

Mohan Gupta, whose name

has cropped up in the Rafale

case, was also accused of

pocketing commission in

the purchase of VVIP chop-

pers. "This is too much of a

coincidence, and too much

of a coincidence is always a

conspiracy," he said.

vendetta.



Jhansi fort. A ground-breaking ceremony for a plant under Bharat Dynamics Limited, for the Jhansi "node" of the defence corridor, will also be done while Mr. Modi is

He will then likely to proceed to Lucknow for the annual DGP conference with the top brass of law enforcement on November 20.

For the inauguration of the completed Kashi Vishwanath Temple Corridor project, a prestigious project started by Mr. Modi in his own constituency of Varanasi, there are three tentative dates that have been put forward, all in December

### Padma Vibhushan goes to SPB

Posthumous honour accepted by son S.P. Charan from President Kovind

NEW DELHI

Legendary singer S.P. Balasubrahmanyam was on Tuesday posthumously honoured with the Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian award of the country, at a ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. Balasubrahmanyam's son S.P. Charan received the award on his father's behalf from President Ram Nath Kovind.

Former Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan and the late Tarun Gogoi, former Chief Minister of Assam, were among the 118 prominent personalities who were given the Padma awards by the President at the Rashtrapati Bhavan here on Tuesday.

Archaeologist B.B. Lal, who led an excavation at the Ram Janmabhoomi site in the mid-1970s, and Islamic scholar Maulana Wahiduddin Khan (posthumous) were also conferred the Padma Vibhushan.

Veteran sculptor from Odisha Sudarshan Sahoo, renowned doctor and educationist from Karnataka Belle



Music to the ears: President Ram Nath Kovind presenting the Padma Bhushan to singer Chithra on Tuesday. • PTI

Monappa Hegde and U.S.based scientist Narinder Singh Kapany (posthumous) were also given the Padma Vibhushan award at two Civil Investiture ceremonies.

Japan's longest-serving Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who was awarded with the Padma Vibhushan, was not present at the event to receive the award.

Vice-President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman were among those who were present on the occasion.

Former principal secretary to PM Modi, Nripendra Misra, industrialist Rajnikant D. Shroff and former MP Tarlochan Singh were presented the Padma Bhushan for their contribution to public affairs and civil service.

Former Gujarat chief minister Keshubhai Patel, former Union minister Ram Vilas Paswan and Islamic scholar Syed Kalbe Sadiq were honoured with the Padma Bhushan posthumously. The award was received by their family members. Poet and playwright from

Karnataka Chandrashekar Kambara and singer Chithra were also conferred the Padma Bhushan. Bharat Ratna, the coun-

try's highest civilian award has not been given to anyone

118 awards

A total of seven individuals were given the Padma Vibhushan, 10 were given Padma Bhushan and 101 were given Padma Shri.

Social worker from Assam Lakhimi Baruah; Jai Bhagwan Goyal, Hindi littérateur from Haryana's Kurukshetra; Manganiyar folk singer from Rajasthan Lakha Khan; acclaimed Carnatic vocalist Bombay Jayashri; senior orthopaedic surgeon from Dehradun Bhupendra Kumar Singh Sanjay and noted Hindi professor and journalist from Srinagar Chaman Lal Sapru were among those who received the Padma

### BSF, CRPF footprint to go up in Valley

PEERZADA ASHIO SRINAGAR

The Kashmir valley is all set to see the re-induction of the Border Security Force (BSF) in towns, increased footprint of the CRPF in the capital and scores of "surprise checkpoints" across the city to contain the growing targeted attacks on civilians by

rally will be held close to the

militants, especially on members of the minority community.

The fresh security augmentation plans come as the preliminary police investigation suggested that Monday's civilian killing of a salesman in Srinagar's Bohri Kadal was "actually an attack on its Pandit owner who has been

frequenting the shop". J&K Lieutenant Governor

on Monday chaired a security review meeting in Jammu. Sources said five additional CRPF companies, in addition to 25 companies (2,500 personnel) inducted earlier this month, would be deployed in Srinagar. Besides, 55 Central Armed Police Forces companies would also help man important installations.

Sources said the process of re-induction of 25 BSF companies had started in towns in south Kashmir. This would be the first time since the 1990s that the BSF would be posted in towns to man installations and offices.

APPEAL

Purushothaman is a 14 years old boy hailing from a poor family. He is suffering from Relapsed Hodgkin's Lumphoma and needs Rs.8,00,000/for the Autologous Bone Marrow Transplant at V.S. Hospital, Chennai. Kindly help him to have a new life. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring V.S. Medical Trust will be acknowledged. The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C No.60182010063310. IFSC No. CNRB0016018) favouring WOMEN'S

Branch, A/C No.60182010063310, IFSC No. CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under All correspondence is done through WWS, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/28235324/7338978027. E Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com. Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

deal within every deal, Mr. Patra said. The Congress has in past said the allegations of corruption by the BJP

was in power. "The Mediapart story

### NSA Doval meets Tajik, Uzbek counterparts

'Afghanistan was the major focus of discussions'

SUHASINI HAIDAR NEW DELHI

Ahead of the Delhi Regional Security Dialogue, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval met his counterparts from Tajikistan and Uzbekistan for separate bilateral meetings here on Tuesday where they discussed the terror threats from Afghanistan, the humanitarian crisis unfolding there and the need for an inclusive and "legitimate" Government in Kabul. Mr. Doval will join the NSAs and the security chiefs for an eight-nation conference on Wednesday morning, to discuss the issues further.

"Afghanistan was the major focus of discussions. Both sides agreed that the future of Afghanistan must be decided by the people of Afghanistan themselves," sources said after Mr. Doval's meeting with Uzbekistan Secretary of the Security Council Lt. Gen. Victor Makhmudov in the South Block. adding that the question of legitimacy should be dealt with before discussing international recognition to the Government in Kabul.

At present, no country has recognised the Taliban Interim Government and the Taliban has rejected calls for an electoral process to decide who will succeed the previous Government.

#### **Humanitarian crisis**

"Both sides emphasised the need for neighbours to ensure unhindered access of humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan. They also agreed that the neighbours must play a constructive role there," sources



Strategic meet: NSA Ajit Doval with his Uzbekistan counterpart Victor Makhmudov during their meeting. • PTI

said in comments that appeared to be aimed at Pakistan which has declined India's request to send medical and wheat shipments as aid by road to Afghanistan. The U.N. had earlier warned that more than half the population of Afghanistan could face a crisis with food stocks running out.

The comments come a week after Mr. Makhmudov was in Islamabad to establish a Joint Security Commission agreement with the Pakistan Government to strengthen strategic ties and connectivity.

**Deepening cooperation** Tajikistan's Secretary of the Security Council Nasrullo Rahmation also "highlighted the gravity of the situation in Afghanistan" from a "sharp increase" in terrorist threats during his meeting with Mr. Doval. Sources said both countries have a significant convergence of assessments on Afghanistan.

Tajik President Emomali Rahmon has taken the toughest line amongst the Central Asian states on the Taliban for its "human rights violations" and the Government is believed to have hosted members of the anti-Taliban "National Resistance Front" led by Ahmed Masoud at various times in the past few months.

Government sources privv to the conversation said Mr. Doval and Mr. Rahmation also spoke about deepening cooperation in areas like defence, border management and border infrastructure development.

On Wednesday, Mr. Doval will host the plenary session of all the security chiefs attending the dialogue. In the afternoon, he will hold bilateral meetings with his counterparts from Russia, Iran and Kazakhstan.

INTERVIEW | KARAMBIR SINGH

### 'GMC to forge solutions to key issues'

Seas permit free flow of commerce and ideas, says Navy chief

DINAKAR PERI

The Indian Navy is monitoring the Chinese Navy and its maritime assets deployed in the IOR, says Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh on the sidelines of the Goa Maritime Conclave. Excerpts:

The GMC has grown as a platform. In the backdrop of developments in the region, what is the focus of this edition and the forward?

■ The aim of the conclave is

to bring together a smaller group of navies in the immediate neighbourhood, look at the common challenges that we face and forge tangible solutions to key issues. We bring together practitioners and scholars to discuss these challenges. Thereafter, we have an exclusive session wherein the heads of navies will discuss one-onone the way forward to these challenges. This year, the theme is 'Maritime Security and Emerging Non Traditional Threats: The Case for Proactive Role for Indian Ocean Region Navies'. We will examine informationsharing, hydrographic cooperation, maritime law enforcement, training, opportunities in disaster response, crisis management etc.

Each GMC is followed by a Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS). During the GMS, we follow up discussions that have happened during the GMC and work to bring them to fruition through an action plan that will be presented back again to the naval heads. And since we are a smaller grouping, it will be easier for us to do that.

In addition to increased

forays into the IOR (Indian Ocean Region), the PLA Navy now has a base in Djibouti and are building ships faster than anyone else. In this backdrop, how are you prioritising your modernisation as well as

operational philosophy? ■ As a Navy, we are monitoring the Chinese Navy and Chinese maritime assets that are deployed in the IOR, including Chinese research vessels to watch out for any activities inimical to our interests. It is true that the Chinese have a presence in the IOR. And whatever you said,

What is the way forward for Quad as well the Malabar exercise, given the growing

bases and presence is a fact.

interest in the region? ■ I think we need to differentiate between Malabar and the Quad. The former precedes the latter. It was in 1992 that we started Malabar with the U.S. Navy, and thereafter, it has grown over a period of time to include Japan and Australia. What we are achieving in Malabar is that we are continuously increasing the scope and complexity of the exercise so that we are able to seamlessly operate with each other. And if required, for any contingency or any challenge, we can easily come in a plug and play format and operate. As for the Quad, it is basically a Ministry of External Affairs'

India has signed all the foundational agreements with the U.S. and logistics support agreements with several countries, including Australia and Japan. How has the Navy benefited from these agreements?

(MEA) construct.



The main thing that navies require is Reach and Sustenance'

■ These are all important

agreements that we've signed. When we sign these agreements, say LEMOA (Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement), and our ships are deployed off Guam, we are able to take fuel from their tankers. Or when we are operating off Australia, we will be able to take fuel from their tanker. The main thing that navies require is 'Reach and Sustenance'. These are two very important principles on which any Navy operates. The agreements that we have, including the foundational agreements, have helped us in being able to achieve this 'Reach and Sustenance', which is very important for us.

What were the top challenges during your tenure at the helm? Since the developments in Afghanistan, there have been apprehensions of possible smuggling of weapons via the sea route in addition to narcotics. What is your assessment?

■ Narco-terrorism is a real threat that we envisage. There is a connection between drug trafficking and arms trafficking. Organisa-

tions like ISIS Khorasan depend a fair amount on the money that they make out of drugs. We have intelligence that indicates that there is a flow of drugs from the Makran coast, down to the East coast of Africa, from where it moves to the island nations, which are tourism dependent economies, and then to Sri Lanka and India and also across the world.

This is a threat that we are aware of, and we have initiatives such as the Colombo Security Conclave, wherein we want to do certain Focused Operations with countries that are affected by challenges such as drug trafficking to put an end to this scourge.

What is your assessment of the concept of Mission Based Deployments (MBD) that began five years back?

■ Mission Based Deployments, which started in 2017, have been of significant utility to us. First, when ships are on regular deployment in key areas in the IOR, they increase their familiarity with the area of operation. We are also available for response in any situation... So that establishes our credibility and assures friendly nations that we are ready to assist anytime.

Also, when we talk of our endeavour to be a Preferred Security Partner, we have to be around to come to assistance... MBD has actually transformed the Navy from a deployment ready Navy to a deployed Navy. The intention is to continue with this particular method deployment.

(To read the full interview, log on to bit.ly/NavyChiefIn-



### Hari Kumar to take over as Navy chief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar, presently Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C) Western Naval Command, has been appointed as the next Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS). He will take over on November 30 when incumbent Admiral Karambir Singh retires from service.

"The Government has appointed Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar presently FOCin-C Western Naval Command as the next CNS with effect from the afternoon of November 30, 2021," a Defence Ministry statement said.

Vice Admiral Kumar graduated from J-squadron, 61 Course National Defence Academy in December 1981 and was commissioned into the Executive Branch of the Navy on January 1, 1983.

During a career spanning nearly 39 years, he has served in a variety of Command, Staff and Instructional appointments. Vice Admiral Kumar's Sea Command includes Coast Guard Ship C-01, INS Nishank, Missile Corvette, INS Kora and Guided Missile Destroyer INS Ranvir.

He also commanded aircraft carrier INS Viraat.

He also served as Fleet

Operations Officer of the Western Fleet.

### India, Pakistan to + hold parallel meets on Afghanistan

SUHASINI HAIDAR

New Delhi and Islamabad will hold two parallel tracks on Afghanistan this week – the two meetings sharpening the divide between India and Pakistan and their view of each other's role in the region.

On Wednesday, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval will meet his counterparts from Russia, Iran and five Central Asian states, including NSAs and State Security Chiefs from each of these countries for the Delhi Regional Security Dialogue.

On Thursday, Pakistan's special envoy on Afghanistan Mohammad Sadiq Khan will host a meeting of the "Extended Troika" made up of Russia, China, U.S. and Pakistan.

For the first time, the Troika-Plus, as it is called, will also meet with Taliban acting Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi, who is visiting Islamabad to attend bilateral meetings.

### **NEWS ANALYSIS**

The meetings make it obvious that the U.S. and other major countries in the region, which include China, Iran, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, perceive their engagement with India and Pakistan on Afghanistan separately, but equally vital.

Pakistan is seen as a necessary interlocutor with the Taliban leadership, and an important transit point of trade and connectivity from Afghanistan.

India is seen as a powerful force in the region which must be engaged with, and kept onside for the difficult conversations on terrorism, drugs and migration, as well as a traditional bilateral partner to all the countries minus Pakistan.

This explains why Russia has sent its Security Chief Gen Patrushev to Delhi while special envoy Zamir Kabulov has confirmed he will travel to Islamabad this week, Iran held a Foreign Ministers meeting including Pakistan, but not India, just a fortnight before attending the NSA meet in Delhi, most of the Central Asian security chiefs visiting Delhi have engaged Kabul and Islamabad in the past few months, and U.S. Special envoy Thomas West is on an extended trip to the region, where he will visit Islamabad, Delhi and Moscow.

The NSA meeting in Delhi is a pitch for India's continuing role in regional security, even if its bilateral relations with Afghanistan are suspended for the moment.

The NSA meet seeks to share common concerns on terrorism and extremist ideology, drugs and refugees emanating from Afghanistan, and officials said that none of the countries involved are close to "legitimising" the Taliban.



		i	Submission	ı
Online Tender No.E759/FUR/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – ICU Cot (2096), Modular Crash Cart (524)– Rs. 5,725/-	10.11.2021 to 24.11.2021	17.11.2021 11.00 AM	25.11.2021 11.00 AM	25.11.2021 12.00 PM
Online Tender No. E760/ECG/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 –ECG machine (278)– Rs. 5,725/-	10.11.2021 to 24.11.2021	17.11.2021 12.00 Noon	25.11.2021 03.00 PM	25.11.2021 04.00 PM
Online Tender No.E761/DVT/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – DVT prophylaxis mechanical pump (412)– Rs. 5,725/-	11.11.2021 to 25.11.2021	18.11.2021 11.00 AM	26.11.2021 11.00 AM	26.11.2021 12.00 PM
Online Tender No.E762/PW/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – Whole body warmer with blanket (524), Blood & Fluid Warmer (308)– Rs. 5,725/-	11.11.2021 to 25.11.2021	18.11.2021 12.00 Noon	26.11.2021 03.00 PM	26.11.2021 04.00 PM
Tender No.763/C&E/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – Civil, Electrical and MGPS work in the ICU unit–Rs. 5,725/-	12.11.2021 to 29.11.2021	19.11.2021 11.00 AM	30.11.2021 11.00 AM	30.11.2021 12.00 PM
Tender No.764/FAB/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – Fabrication of Vehicle as Mobile Medical Unit (387)– Rs. 5,725/-			30.11.2021 03.00 PM	30.11.2021 04.00 PM
tails visit www.tenders.tn.gov.in and TNMSC web	site www.tn	msc.tn.gov	in DIPR/32	52/Tender/2
	ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – ICU Cot (2096), Modular Crash Cart (524)– Rs. 5,725/- Online Tender No. E760/ECG/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – ECG machine (278)– Rs. 5,725/- Online Tender No.E761/DVT/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – DVT prophylaxis mechanical pump (412)– Rs. 5,725/- Online Tender No.E762/PW/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ Online Tender No.E762/PW/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – Whole body warmer with blanket (524), Blood & Fluid Warmer (308)– Rs. 5,725/- Tender No.763/C&EEGE/PN/HM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – Civil, Electrical and MGPS work in the ICU unit– Rs. 5,725/- Tender No.764/FAB/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dt: 06.11.2021 – Fabrication of Vehicle as Mobile Medical Unit (387)– Rs. 5,725/- tails visit www.tenders.tn.gov.in and TNMSC webs	ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 – ICU Cot (2096) , Modular Crash Cart (524)—Rs. 5,725/- Online Tender No. Dr. 06.11.2021 – ECG machine (278)—Rs. 5,725/- Online Tender No. ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 – EVG machine (278)—Rs. 5,725/- Online Tender No. E761/DVT/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 – DVT prophylaxis mechanical pump (412)—Rs. 5,725/- Online Tender No. E762/PW/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 – Whole body warmer with blanket (524), Blood & Fluid Warmer (308)—Rs. 5,725/- Tender No. 763/C&E/EER/PNHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 – Givil, Electrical and MGPS work in the ICU unit—Rs. 5,725/- Tender No. 764/FAB/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 – Fabrication of Vehicle as Mobile Medical Unit (387)—Rs. 5,725/-	ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 - ICU Cot (2096) , Modular Crash Cart (524) - Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. Er60/ECG/ECR/NHM/TNMSC/ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 - ECG machine (278) - Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. Er61/DVT/ECR/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 - DVT prophylaxis mechanical pump (412) - Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. Er61/DVT/ECR/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 - Whole body warmer with blanket (524), Blood & Fluid Warmer (308) - Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. From the No. From t	ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 - ICU Cot (2096) , Modular Crash Cart (524) - Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. Er62/PWECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 - ECG machine (278) - Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. Er61/DVT/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 - DVT prophylaris mechanical pump (412) - Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. Er61/DVT/ECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 - DVT prophylaris mechanical pump (412) - Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. Er62/PWECRP/NHM/TNMSC/ ENGG/2021, Dr. 06.11.2021 - Whole body warmer with blanket (524), Blood & Fluid Warmer (308) - Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. From New York in the ICU unit- Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. From New York in the ICU unit- Rs. 5,725/- Conline Tender No. From New York in the ICU unit- Rs. 5,725/- Condition Tender No. From New York in the ICU unit- Rs. 5,7



### **GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU CHENNAI SMART CITY LIMITED (CSCL) INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING**

INVITATION FOR TENDER ntelligent Transport Systems funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

IFB No C.S.C.L.C.No. 145/2017-18

Chennai Smart City Limited (CSCL) **Employer** Country

India JICA Loan No ID-P270

Project for Installation of Chennai Metropolitan Area Intelligent Project Name Transport Systems

Contract Name: Procurement of Design, Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operations and Maintenance of Intelligent Transportation Systems in Chennai Metropolitan Area

1. The Government of India (GOI) has received a loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency(JICA) towards the cost of "Project for Installation of Chennai Metropolitan Area Intelligent Transport Systems" (herein referred to as "the Project"). It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the Contract Design, Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operations and Maintenance of Intelligent Transport System in Chennai Metropolitan Area.

2. Bidding will be conducted through procedures in accordance with the applicable Guidelines for Procurement under Japanese ODA Loans, and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the Loan Agreement

3. The Chennai Smart City Limited (the Executing Agency called Employer on behalf of GOI) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the Design, Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operations and Maintenance of Intelligent Transport System in Chennai Metropolitan Area("the Works"). International Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with JICA's "Single-Stage Two- Envelope" Bidding Procedure.(As per standard bidding document into Japanese ODA loan (Design build) July 2015 by JICA)

4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the office of:

O/o Chennai Smart City Limited (CSCL), 5th Floor - D wing, Amma Maaligai, Ripon Buildings, Chennai - 600003, Tamil Nadu Telephone: +91-044-25303824/707 Email: tenders@cscl.co.in

5. Bidding document will be available at the above said office from 16th November to

6. Pre-bid Meeting is scheduled on 8th December 2021 at 3.00 PM

7. A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be purchased and collected by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of INR 75,000 /- or \$1000 USD (Including GST). The method of payment will be Account Payee Demand Draft/Banker Cheque in favour of Chennai Smart City Limited (CSCL), Payable at Chennai or through the online or offline through NEFT/RTGS to the Account of Chennai ITS Project, Account No. 50100333041254, IFSC Code: HDFC0001216, Bank Name: HDFC Bank, Bank Address: No. 30, Cenatoph road, Teynampet, Chennai - 600018. The document will be sent by Courier/Post or can be collected by the Authorized Representative of the Applicant.

8. Bids must be delivered to the address above on or before 18th January 2022; 3:00 PM 9. Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 3.30 PM on 18th January 2022 at the office of:

Managing Director O/o Chennai Smart City Limited (CSCL), 5th Floor - D wing, Amma Maaligai, Ripon Buildings, Chennai - 600003, Tamil Nadu Telephone: +91-044-25303824/707, Email: tenders@cscl.co.in **Managing Director** ளேதனை கடந்து சுதந்திறம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திறம் படைப்போம் Chennai Smart City Limited (CSCL) Schneider Electric

INVITATION FOR THE SECOND ROUND OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR AVAILING WHITE LABELLING OF THE ELECTRICAL AND AUTOMATION **PRODUCTS OF LARSEN & TOUBRO** 

Schneider Electric India Private Limited ("SEIPL") invites the second round of Expression of Interest ("EOI") from LV switchgear manufacturers in India for availing white labelling product manufacturing services from SEIPL, in compliance with the modifications provided in the order of the Competition Commission of India ("CCI"), dated 18th April 2019 ("CCI Order"), approving the acquisition of the electrical and automation ("E&A") business of Larsen & Toubro ("L&T") by SEIPL and MacRitchie Investments Pte. Ltd. The CCI Order is available at:

https://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/Notice\_order\_document/Public1.pdf.

The white labelling product manufacturing services being offered by SEIPL is subject to the terms and conditions as set out in the CCI Order including the following:

- The white labelling product manufacturing service is being offered by SEIPL only for the existing product range, owned and manufactured at L&T plants, of the five products of L&T (Air Circuit Breakers ("ACB"), Moulded Case Circuit Breakers ("MCCB"), Overload Relays, Contactors and Switch Disconnector Fuse ("SDF"), collectively "Five Products").
- The white labelling services for the Five Products of L&T can be availed for the remaining period of the white labelling product manufacturing services offering ending as on 28 September 2026 for sale solely in
- The pricing and allocation of quantity for the white labelling contract will be governed by the CCI Order and monitored by the Monitoring Agency - Moore Singhi Advisors LLP (mukeshgilda@singhico.com) appointed by the CCI.
- · At the end of the white labelling period as specified in the CCI Order, a single LV switchgear manufacturer shall have the option to enter into a non-transferable, non-sub licensable, non-exclusive technology license solely for manufacture and sale in India with SEIPL for all or any of the Five Products of L&T for which it has availed of white labelling, subject to the quantity / duration and other terms and conditions as set out in the CCI Order at a reasonable commercial royalty rate for a period of 5 years. Such technology license to the third party LV switchgear manufacturer shall be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the

Interested LV switchgear manufacturers are requested to respond to fully and finally to this second round of invitation for expression of interest by submitting their details at: https://www.se.com/in/en/aboutus/whitelabelling/whitelabelling-registration.jsp by 10th Jan 2022 i.e., 2 months from date of publication of this EOI

SEIPL will also conduct a pre-bid meeting on 8th December 2021, i.e., Wednesday at 10:00 -12:00 PM, to provide clarifications in relation to this EOI. Interested parties to contact us at whitelabel.support@se.com, for further details on the pre-bid meeting.

Specific product ranges available for white labelling will be shared with interested parties post registration at the link set out above

For further details, please contact us at: whitelabel.support@se.com.

### J&K hospitals get faulty ventilators

RTI reveals that at least 165 machines bought with PM CARES fund not working properly

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Jammu & Kashmir's Health and Medical Education (H&ME) has found itself in the dock after details obtained under the Right to Information Act suggested that at least 165 "faulty" ventilators were supplied to the Union Territory's hospitals last vear with PM CARES fund.

In a reply to an RTI application filed by activist Balvinder Singh, the department of the Anaesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine of the Shri Maharaja Hari Singh (SMHS) Hospital has pointed out that 165 ventilators – 37 from the Bharat Ventilators, three from the Agva Ventilators and 125 from the Dhaman-III - were found to be faulty.

All machines from Bharat Ventilators were returned due to compressor and heat

Court dismisses plaint

against Kangana, sister

A magistrate court dismissed

a private complaint seeking

action against actor Kangana

Ranaut in a case concerning

Tablighi Jamaat. On April 15, 2020, advocate Kashif Ali

derogatory statements on

Khan Deshmukh filed a

Ranaut's sister Rangoli

Chandel had put out a

complaint stating that Ms.

defamatory tweet against the

Tablighi Jamaat. It said the

actor supported her sister.

ED attaches ₹9.28-crore

assets in coal theft case

The Enforcement Directorate

has attached assets worth

₹9.28 crore in connection with the alleged illegal

mining and pilferage of coal

value of total attachment so

in West Bengal, taking the

far to ₹181.14 crore. The

properties are linked to

Vikas Mishra

NEW DELHI

"mastermind" Anup Majhi,

Vinay Mishra and his brother

₹61.38 crore of BSL, BEL

The Enforcement Directorate

connection with the alleged

from Bhushan Steel Limited

Limited (BEL) and others. The

assets include agricultural

land and the warehouses of

entities under the control of

erstwhile promoters of BSL.

The ED probe is based on a

under provisions of the

Penal Code.

complaint filed by the Serious Frauds Investigation Office

Companies Act and the Indian

siphoning of public funds

(BSL). Bhushan Energy

(ED) has attached assets

worth ₹61.38 crore in

NEW DELH



Defective ventilators are suspected to be the main reason for the high COVID-19 mortality rate in Jammu. ■FILE PHOTO

up problems, which resulted in their sudden shutdown, the department wrote in its reply. "These ventilators do not support patient care management."

It also pointed out that machines of the Agva Ventilators were "non-functional due to problems like display not working and problem in generating tidal volume".

Trial run of two ventilators out of 125 from Dhaman-III stationed at the DRDO Hospi-Khanmoh, Srinagar, found that the tidal volume had not generated required Flo2 and and thus could not be put to use for patient care. The ventilators stopped automatically, and put patients at risk, the Srinagar hospital pointed out.

"Though officials of the H&ME Department in Jammu division also admit that the

ventilators supplied to them are not of good quality and not functioning properly, they did not give exact details in response to my RTI query for reasons best known to them," Mr. Singh said at a press conference in Jammu on Monday. He claimed that installation of these defective ventilators "could be one of the major reason for the high COVID-19 mortality rate in Jammu division as compared to Kashmir".

Meanwhile, sources said the H&ME department was likely to probe the procurement of these ventilators.

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti termed the revelations a big scam. "The ventilators bought through the PM CARES fund are lying defunct in Srinagar. Nobody is answerable to the people,'

#### sense of well-being. Spike post-Deepavali

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN

After oxygen cylinders, it's

everyday-use portable oxy-

gen cans that are now wit-

nessing brisk sales across

the country, with escalating

air pollution levels and in-

creased travel and outdoor

activities. It is also being

used by those recovering

Sales of these portable ox-

ygen cans, according to in-

dustry experts, have dou-

bled post-Diwali, and going

by the current trend they are

expected to triple in the

bring in 65% of the sales,

while Mumbai, Bengaluru

and Pune also are witnessing

a steady climb in demand for

this product. This when

medical doctors are not rea-

dy to give an all-clear for the

product, stating that it can

actually delay medical inter-

vention and lead to a false

Delhi-NCR alone claims to

from COVID-19.

coming weeks.

"Available for under ₹2,000 and sold as an over-thecounter product, these portable cans have seen an increased demand after Diwali. While sales have doubled recently, we are expecting the figure to further climb going by the trends," said Alankar Saxena, co-founder and CEO, UCS Wellness, a company that makes portable cans. He added that the cans are safe for the older population, people with respiratory problems and fitness enthusiasts, and can be offered to children and pregnant women in consultation

Demand for portable oxygen

However, doctors say they give a wrong sense of security

cans on the rise in country

Doctors are afraid that oxygen cans may delay medical intervention.

"This is also used as a performance enhancer in most professional athletics competitions and is manufactured in a USFDA-registered manufacturing facility. Our portable oxygen can offers 900-950 inhalations and people can use a few puffs as required. Users just have to spray like a deodorant in front of the face and mouth and inhale it," he said.

Industry experts note that these portable oxygen cans are also being put to use while travelling, during outdoor sports and to combat the ill-effects of COVID-19.

#### Not useful, say doctors

However, doctors are not ready to give an all-clear for the product. "These cans are not useful and they should not be recommended," said Dr. Mubasheer Ali, senior Internal Medicine consultant, Apollo Tele-Health. "Technically, a patient in need of oxygen will require at least 1 litre per minute. While these portable oxygen spray cans can have up to 12 litres of oxygen, they will last for about 10 minutes or even less. They shouldn't

be seen as a medical intervention."

Such products give only a wrong sense of security and may delay patients from seeking timely medical attention, Dr. Ali said. These oxygen spray cans will hardly help in times of acute respiratory failure. One requires a continuous, high flow of oxygen supply with a proper setting, he said.

"These spray cans may only be used in areas with severe air pollution, for certain sports activities, high-altitude climbing and expeditions, mountaineering, sky expeditions etc. As oxygen supports combustion, storing these at homes is also hazardous. Use of oxygen at home has to be under the supervision of a medical doctor or a trained medical professional only," he added.

#### Recreational use

Dr. Neetu Jain, senior consultant Pulmonology, PSRI Hospital, noted that oxygen cans are not meant for emergency use or for use by patients suffering from lung illnesses requiring oxygen.

"These are meant for recreational oxygen use which is supposed to make you more alert and active, but there is no control on the amount of oxygen coming from cans. In short, these don't work. They cannot cure hypoxia due to COVID-19 either. Relying on these oxygen cans for emergency use can even lead to loss of life. Oxygen can just have a placebo effect and is useful for only mountaineering. They are not really habit-forming, but

### 'Chief Secretary should know Mizo'

Mizoram CM says knowledge of language is vital

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Mizoram Chief Minister Zoramthanga has asked the Centre to appoint a Chief Secretary with a working knowledge of the Mizo language as the Mizo people in general and his Cabinet Ministers do not know or are weak in Hindi.

In a letter to Home Minister Amit Shah on October 29, the Chief Minister said the Ministry of Home Affairs appointed Renu Sharma as the State's Chief Secretary when his Government wanted to promote Additional Chief Secretary J.C. Ramthanga to the post.

Ms. Sharma assumed charge on November 1, succeeding Lalnunmawia Chuaungo, who took voluntary retirement.

**Unprecedented move** 

"The Mizo people by and large generally do not understand Hindi. None of my Cabinet Ministers understands Hindi. Some of them even have a problem with English. With such a background, a Chief Secretary without the knowledge of a working standard Mizo language will never be effective and effi-Mr. Zoramthanga

He said this was the reason why the Centre had never appointed a person who did not know Mizo as the State's Chief Secretary ear-

"Whether it is the UPA (Congress-led United Progressive Alliance) Government or the NDA (BIP-led National Democratic Alliance Government at the Centre, this has been a practice since the creation of Mizoram State," the Chief Minister

Mr. Chuaungo had succeeded Arvind Ray, an IAS officer of the 1984 batch as the Chief Secretary.

Whether or not Mr. Ray was familiar with the Mizo language could not be ascertained.

It was a well-known fact that a Chief Secretary without the basic knowledge of the local language was never posted in other States in the country, Mr. Zoramthanga wrote and sought a Mizo in the post as a favour for his "loyalty" to the NDA.

He said if his request was not accepted, the Opposition Congress would make a

### Security must trump green concerns: SC

there are no benefits.

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court on Tuesday wondered the extent to which it can intervene on environmental

grounds when the defence of the nation is at stake. A Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud was hearing a plea against the environmental clearance given to widen the Char Dham roads by felling trees. The court referred to the recent skirmishes on

the border with China.

The court said it was facing a serious predicament when the government is citing defence needs for the widening of the feeder roads. Attorney General K.K. Venugopal said the roads need to be widened for transport of heavy military equipment like missile launchers and even tanks.

### Absence at meet due to scheduling issues: China

Pakistan will also miss NSA meeting

ANANTH KRISHNAN HONG KONG

China's Foreign Ministry said on Tuesday that "scheduling reasons" were behind Beijing giving a miss to the regional security dialogue being hosted by New Delhi on Wednesday.

National Security Advisers (NSAs) of Russia, Iran and five Central Asian nations are participating in the meet hosted by NSA Ajit Doval. Pakistan said it would not attend the meeting.

Asked about China's absence, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin said it was "inconvenient for China to attend the meeting due to scheduling reasons". "We have already given our reply to the Indian side," he said, without elaborating further on the meet.

While both top Chinese

diplomat and Politburo member Yang Jiechi and Foreign Minister Wang Yi are this week attending an annual four-day meeting of the ruling Communist Party's Central Committee in Beijing, which opened on Monday, the Foreign Ministry did not say why other top security officials were not attending the meeting in their stead.

The Ministry of External Affairs said Wednesday's "high-level dialogue will review and deliberate upon measures to address relevant security challenges and support the people of Afghanistan in promoting peace, security stability"

Both Pakistan and China have increasingly been aligning their strategies on the Afghanistan issue.

### NHRC's topic for debate raises a furore

It discussed if human rights blocked fight against 'evils like terrorism, Naxalism'

DAMINI NATH NEW DELHI

The topic for the annual debate competition for the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), organised by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Tuesday, "are human rights a stumbling block in fighting evils like terrorism and Naxalism' succeeded in setting off a dialogue, with many activists and politicians questioning the choice of topic it-

The competition which, according to an official, has been going for the past 25 years, is co-hosted with one CAPF every year, but the topic of discussion is finalised by the NHRC.

This year, the debate was co-hosted by the NHRC and the Assam Rifles, whose team won the "best team rolling trophy" after winning the final round, a statement



**Bone of contention:** This year's debate was co-hosted by NHRC and Assam Rifles. •@INDIA\_NHRC/TWITTER

from the NHRC said.

Several Twitter users responded to the NHRC's tweets about the competition with questions of their

Activist and Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Polit Bureau member Kavita Krishnan said the NHRC would surely know

that the Justice Upendra enquiry commission found Assam Rifles personnel gangraped and killed Thangjam Manorama, a Manipuri woman, in 2004. "...For Assam Rifles to host a Human Rights event is a cruel joke!", she stated.

Responding to Ms. Krishnan's tweet, senior advocate you expect from a man who organises a debate "are human rights a stumbling block on fighting evils like terrorism and Naxalism".

Indira Jaising said: "What do

Rashtriya Janata Dal MP Manoj Kumar Jha remarked "what a shame", citing the topic.

The international director of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Sanjoy Hazarika, told The Hindu: "I really wish the topic had been framed in terms of upholding human rights in times of conflict and confrontation."

During the event, NHRC chairperson retired judge A.K. Mishra said the armed forces had protected the nation while facing stone-pelting and other attacks, but they "cannot adopt the same methods as these terrorists" in self-defence, the NHRC

### TH CROSSWORD+ 13398 We are digital now. Come solve online:

16 Caught on edge, offspring becomes red (7) **19** Show former lover greeting with 0/1 (7)

SCAN TO PLAY

21 Frustrate one caught in lightning going past dirty place (6)

@ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

23 Inspire eastern national with bravery (9) 25 Raisin ain't provided to Egyptian peninsula (5)

**26** Agency these days with a fleet (6)

**27** Obstruct one working horse (8)

28 European horse primarily mentioned in Hamlet, maybe? (6) 29 Drop rate by mistake for one who exploits (8)

1 Woman protecting one lady regularly with broad plate (6) 2 Tough rap artist initially changing signature (9)

**3** Excavate one ton — it may be seen on the left (5) 4 Highly excited, fellow dashed with nervous movement (7)

**6** King for one, with appeal on last day in command (9) 7 Set measure on furniture (5)

8 Odd sailor to make a mistake with hard worker (8) **11** Endlessly impede alliance (4)

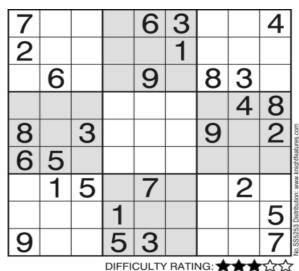
15 Period where childbirth may happen? (6,3) 17 Second insect – it may be dissected by researcher (9)

18 Bishop always on time for coffee, perhaps (8)

**20** Returned some gin (4) **21** Lieutenant in absolute protection (7)

22 Cold season where temperature drops for Newton - he's a

### **SUDOKU**



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### **FAITH**

### Repertoire of ancient lore

The Purana and Itihasa stories contain the essence of the dharma sastras ordained for mankind by the Vedas, though they are likely to reflect diverse viewpoints. There may also be many unexplained factors regarding events and characters in these innumerable stories and the connection between them may span many births, yugas and even kalpas.

The Devi Bhagavata Purana adopts the technique of dialogue sessions between Janamejaya and Vyasa to fill in the gaps in the narratives that give rise to doubts in many of us, pointed out Sri K. Srinivasan in a discourse. Janamejaya is disturbed as he looks back at the life of his immediate ancestors. His questions to Vyasa try to probe the mysterious ways of the Lord's avatars. If Krishna is the all Supreme Lord, why did He take avatar in jail? Why did He, who was the leader of Yadavas, go to Gokula? Why did He choose to be born in the womb of Devaki? Why was the venerable Vasudeva, His father, imprisoned by Kamsa when punishment in jail is reserved for only those who commit heinous crimes? He who is in full control of this entire jagat could have easily released his parents from the jail. Who were

those six babies born before Krishna and killed by Kamsa? In the Ramayana, Valmiki makes use of Uttara kanda as a supplement to explain many issues that could not be incorporated as part of the story line. Hanuman is introduced in Kishkinta Kanda and brings about the friendship between Rama and Sugriva. He plays an important role in the Sundara and Yuddha kandas. But we come to know of his antecedents, his extraordinary prowess, valour, etc, only in Uttara Kanda. Hari Vamsa, likewise is an appendix to Mahabharata and in it are explained many aspects of Krishna avatar that are merely indicated and not clarified straight away.

### ACROSS

1 Remain firm with side at stalemate (8) 5 Snapper arrived with rear admiral (6)

9 Essential and used to calculate area under curve (8) **10** Secure a farm building (6) **12** Fellow exiting airplane with little luggage (5)

13 High command gives difficult task (4,5) 14 Cut top of mushroom left inside to plant (6)

24 Short performance by desert dweller left out - ordinary! (5) 25 Hard item at first taken inside, exchanged for money (5)

### China exports warship to Pak., to be deployed in Indian Ocean

It will 'strengthen Pak. Navy's capabilities to respond to maritime challenges'

ANANTH KRISHNAN

China on Monday delivered to Pakistan's Navy what its official media described as the "most advanced" Chinese warship ever exported, which is to be deployed by Pakistan in the Indian

The delivery of the Type 054A frigate is the latest example of increasingly close military cooperation, which many Chinese and Pakistani analysts see as aimed at bolstering Pakistani capabilities in an effort to balance India in the region.

Pakistan's envoy to China, Moin Ul Haque, told the Communist Party-run newspaper Global Times on



Naval matters: Four Type 054A frigates are being constructed for the Pakistan Navy. • REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

Tuesday that the commissioning of the frigate "in the context of the overall security paradigm of the region" would "strengthen Pakistan Navy's capabilities to respond to maritime challenges to ensure seaward defence,

maintain peace, stability and balance of power in the Indian Ocean region".

The newspaper quoted the China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC), which designed and built the frigate, as saying the warship

was delivered to the Pakistan Navy in a commissioning ceremony in Shanghai.

#### PNS Tughril

It has been named PNS Tughril by the Pakistani Navy, and it is "the first hull of four Type 054 frigates being constructed for the Pakistan Navy", the Pakistan Navy told the newspaper,

"Being equipped with state-of-the-art combat management and an electronic warfare system along with modern self-defence capabilities, the Type 054A/P frigate can simultaneously execute a number of naval warfare missions in a highly intense multi-threat environment," it added.

## **Knife-wielding**

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

A policeman was injured as the officers tried to arrest the attacker in the capital's Bislett neighbourhood, the police told a press conference. No details about the identity of the attacker or his motive were disclosed. "We're not excluding any motives, but there is nothing at this stage that indicates this is a terror attack," police Inspector Egil Jorgen Brekke

### Hundreds of migrants trapped in Belarus-Poland stand-off

Poland says Belarus is using the people as a weapon

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Hundreds of desperate migrants were trapped in freezing weather on the border between Belarus and EU and NATO member Poland on Tuesday, with Warsaw accusing Russia and the government in Minsk of using them to threaten European security.

Western critics have for said Belarus's months strongman leader Alexander Lukashenko is luring migrants from West Asia to his country to send them across the border in retaliation for EU sanctions.

Belarus denies the claim and accuses Poland of violating human rights by refusing to allow the migrants in.



A man rests with a child at the Belarus-Poland border. • AF

The tense situation has raised fears of a confrontation on the border, where armed troops from both countries are deployed.

A defiant Mr. Lukashenko said he did not want an armed confrontation but also would not back down. "We are not seeking a fight... I am not a madman, I understand perfectly well where it can lead," he told the state news agency Belta. "But we will not kneel.'

Poland's Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki, meanwhile, accused Russian leader Vladimir Putin of "masterminding" the unprecedented wave of migrants trying to illegally enter Poland from Belarus in a bid to destabilise the European Union.

The crisis came to a head on Monday when hundreds of migrants marched to the border in a bid to cross but were blocked by rows of Polish police, soldiers and border guards behind barbed wire. Poland said Belarus was using the migrants as a weapon, insisting it would not open its border.

### New climate pledges barely affect global warming: UN

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

A flurry of emissions pledges around the COP26 climate summit will likely do little to slow global warming, the UN said on Tuesday, calling on nations to sharply accelerate their greenhouse gas cuts this decade.

Nations have presented a range of new and enhanced commitments - including a vow by India to be carbon neutral by 2070 in recent weeks as the UN climate summit sets its sights on limiting temperature rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Countries came in to the negotiations far off target, with national emissionscutting pledges – known as nationally determined contributions, or NDCs -put Earth on course to warm a "catastrophic" 2.7 degrees Celsius this century.

And a fresh assessment of their new pledges by the Environment Programme (UNEP) found the outcome was "very similar", largely because the most ambitious emissions cuts are envisaged after

The report highlights the challenges facing climate negotiations, given the yawning gap between the emissions cuts needed this decade to keep warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and the continuing increases in greenhouse gases pumped atmosphere.

UN Climate Change said last week that countries' renewed NDCs would see emissions climb 13.7% by 2030 before sharply declining thereafter.

To keep in line with 1.5C, emissions must instead fall 45% by then.

### Taiwan says China capable of air, sea blockade of island

'Beijing beefing up its ability to launch amphibious assaults'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

China is capable of blockading Taiwan's major ports and airports to cut off key transport links, the island's Defence Ministry warned on Tuesday, with Beijing-Taipei tensions at their highest in vears. Taiwan lives under the constant threat of invasion by China, which sees the self-ruled democratic island as part of its territory to be brought into its fold, by force if necessary.

Beijing has ramped up pressure since Tsai Ing-wen became Taiwan's President in 2016, as she views the island as a sovereign nation and not part of "one China".

Beijing is strengthening its air, sea and land strike capabilities against the island, Taiwan's Defence Ministry said in a biennial report released Tuesday. Those capabilities include imposing a "blockade against our critical harbours, airports and outbound flight routes, to cut off our air and sea lines of communica-

The report also warned that China is capable of striking all of Taiwan with its missile arsenal, including ballistic and cruise variants, and is also beefing up its ability to launch amphibious assaults on the island.

tion", the report added.

Taiwan's Defence Minis-

ter warned last month that military tensions with China were at their highest in four decades, after record incursions by Chinese warplanes into the island's air defence identification zone.

The zone is not the same as Taiwan's territorial airspace but includes a far greater area that overlaps with part of China's own air defence identification zone.

China's "frequent manipulation of grey zone threats" such as the warplane incursions, as well as other methods of warfare, including cyberattacks, are aimed at 'seizing Taiwan without a fight", the Defence Ministry report said.

### attacker shot dead in Oslo

The Norwegian police said they shot and killed a knifewielding man who threatened several people early on Tuesday in central Oslo before attacking a patrol car that arrived on the

told reporters.

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Eligibility: Those born on or after January 1, 1982

Last Date: December 15, 2021

IT Bhawan, Plot No. IT-07, IT Park, Sahastradhara Road, Dehradu e-Tender
Tender Notice No. 14fTDA/effle no-90/2021 dated 09/11/2021 or Proposal (RFP) for Selection of Managed Service Provider for Annual Maintenance Contract for Air Conditioner of ITDA

P (Request for Proposal) is being issued by ITDA, Department of IT, Uttarakhand, Dehradun for invit posal from firms for Selection of Managed Service Provider for Annual Maintenance Contract for

Conditioners of ITDA.

The RFP document can be downloaded from <u>www.uklanders.gov.in</u> from 09/11/2021 (1700 Hrs). The
nefter document fee of Rs. 2000- (Rupees Two Thousand only) through demand frain (non refundable
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The amendments in RFP in sture, if any, would be published in the website <u>www.uklanders.gov.in</u> only N
other notification would be Published separately.

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MCC/370/2021-P2-GAD GLOBAL e-TENDER NOTICE

AND ACCESSORIES in Malabar Cancer Centre, Thalassery

For details contact our Purchase Division.

Tender ID

Tender ID

2. 2021\_KMML\_449959\_1 For the supply of SS Pipe

4. |2021\_KMML\_449137\_1 |For the supply of CS Pipe

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### Bangladesh sentences former Chief Justice to 11 years in jail

Politically motivated case, says opposition groups, supporters

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Bangladesh's former Chief Justice was sentenced in absentia to 11 years in jail for corruption on Tuesday, in a case that opposition groups and supporters say is politically motivated. Surendra Kumar Sinha,

70, headed the Supreme Court when it ruled in 2017 that Parliament could not sack judges, a move hailed by lawyers as safeguarding judicial independence. Sinha left Bangladesh in

late 2017 alleging he had been forced to step aside following the landmark ruling. He lives in North America where he has reportedly



Surendra Kumar Sinha

sought asylum. Campaigners have said his departure was a massive blow to the credibility of the country's judiciary, and accused the government of going after

"It was very obvious that the government was angry and four years for breach of trust, prosecutor Khurshid Alam Khan said. "This verdict proved that nobody in the country is

Shaikh Nazmul

above law. Wrongdoings will bring anyone in the trial," he said. Sinha was the first Hindu chief justice in the officially secular Muslim-majority nation of 169 million.

with him and... was deter-

mined to just kill his reputa-

tion," Asif Nazrul, a law pro-

fessor at Dhaka University

Alam of Special Judge's

Court in Dhaka delivered

Tuesday's verdict, ordering

Sinha to serve seven years in

jail for laundering money

said.

Judge

### <sup>+</sup> Facebook whistleblower fears the metaverse

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen warned on Tuesday that the "metaverse", the all-encompassing virtual reality world promised by the social media giant, will be addictive and rob people of yet more personal information while giving the embattled company another monopoly online.

In an interview with *The* Associated Press, Ms. Haugen said her former employer rushed to trumpet the metaverse because of the intense pressure it is facing after she revealed deepseated problems at the company and energised legislative and regulatory efforts around the world to crack down on big tech companies. "If you don't like the conversation, you try to change the conversation," the former product-manager said.

Meta, the new name for

the parent company of Facebook, denied it was trying to divert from the troubles it faces by pushing the metaverse. "This is not true. We have been working on this for a long time internally," the company said in a statement. But the new focus on metaverse creates a whole new set of dangers, Ms. Haugen said. "So beyond the fact that

these immersive environments are extremely addictive and they encourage people to unplug from the reality we actually live," she said, "I'm also worried about it on the level of – the metaverse will require us to put many, many more sensors in our homes and our workplaces," forcing users to relinquish more of their data and their privacy. She said employees of companies that use the metaverse would have little option but to participate in the system or leave their jobs.

Impeachment trial of Chile

President heads to Senate

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE SANTIAGO

Chile's Lower House of Congress approved the impeachment trial of President Sebastian Pinera on Tuesday over corruption allegations that appeared in the Pandora Papers leaks.

GAZA CITY

"included three death

sentences, two of them

occupation, and the third

against a drug dealer". AFP

against collaborators with the

in

Parliamentarians in the Chamber of Deputies gathered the 78 votes required to seek impeachment and advance proceedings to the Senate for the President's involvement

ISSUED BY P.R.O (Water)

Advt. No. J.S.V. 576 (2021-22)

#### 5. 2021\_KMML\_451169\_1 For the Supply of Sleeve Bearing For Plummer Block-3 Nos controversial sale of a mining company. Our Products: Titanium Dioxide, Titanium Tetra Chloride, Nano Titanium, Titanium Sponge, Rutile, Zircon & Sillimanite Hamas sentences three to death in Gaza **DELHI JAL BOARD** OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (SDW) -VIII The Islamist movement PAPPAN KALAN, NEW DELHI- 110078. Hamas which rules the Gaza Email: eesdw8@gmail.com Strip said Tuesday it had Stop Corona: Wear Mask, Follow Physical Distancing and Maintain Hygiene sentenced three people to Press NIT NO. 11 (2021-2022) EE(SDW)VIII death, two of them for tender in e procurement tender through e-procureme collaborating with its enemy Israel. The Hamas military Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Floating Aerators at various STPs of DJB including 2 Years DLP & court said recent rulings Dt.08.11.2021

10 years AMC Further details in this regard can be seen at (https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in)



#### MARKET WATCH **09-11-2021** % **CHANGE** -0.19 US Dollar. 47,124

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Adani Ports		
Asian Paints		
Axis Bank		
Bajaj Auto		
Bajaj Finserv		
Bajaj Finance		
Bharti Airtel		
BPCL		
Britannia Ind		
Cipla		
Coal India		
Divis Lab		
Dr Reddys Lab		
Eicher Motors		
Grasim Ind		
HCL Tech		
HDFC	2941.60	37.95
HDFC Bank	1572.25	-28.00
HDFC Life	706.45	3.20
Hero MotoCorp	2714.35	31.45
Hindalco	464.60	-5.20
Hind Unilever	2431.15	-0.75
ICICI Bank	786.55	6.40
IndusInd Bank	1068.25	7.10
Infosys	1742.50	5.00
Indian OilCorp	139.70	-0.75
ITC	228.75	-1.05
JSW Steel	676.65	9.20
Kotak Bank	2097.20.	21.65
L&T	1943.60	19.05
M&M	892.15	32.65
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Nestle India Ltd.	18940.75	-108.50
NTPC		
ONGC	156.65	1.75
PowerGrid Corp		
Reliance Ind		
SBI Life		
State Bank		
Shree Cement		
Sun Pharma		
Tata Consume		2.3.
Products Ltd.		-0,70
Tata Motors		
Tata Steel		
TCS		
Tech Mahindra		
Titan		
	0166.00	

Indicative direct rate except yen at 4 p.m.		
CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELI
US Dollar	73.84.	74.16
Euro	85.57	85.95
British Pound	100.31	100.75
Japanese Yen (100)	65.38	65.68
Chinese Yuan	11.55	11.6
Swiss Franc	80.86	81.22
Singapore Dollar	54.83	55.07
Canadian Dollar	59.38.	59.64
Malaysian Ringitt	17.78.	17.88

UltraTech Cement



KKR taps Kamath to advise its India arm

Global investment firm KKR has announced the appointment of K.V. Kamath as a senior adviser to KKR India, Mr. Kamath, the first President of the New Development Bank set up by the BRICS nations, had earlier served as Chairman of ICICI Bank and Infosys Ltd.

#### **Good Glamm raises** \$150 mn, in unicorn club

Beauty and personal care firm Good Glamm Group on Tuesday said it had raised \$150 million in its Series D round co-led by Warburg Pincus and Prosus Ventures (Naspers). "With this Series D funding, the Good Glamm Group becomes India's first direct to consumer beauty and personal care company to reach Unicorn status," the company said in a statement.

### Oil rises again as lifting of U.S. travel curbs boosts demand

JPMorgan Chase says global oil demand almost back to pre-pandemic level

Oil rose towards \$84 a barrel on Tuesday, gaining for a third session, as the lifting of travel restrictions by the U.S. and more signs of a global post-pandemic recovery lifted the demand outlook. while supply remained tight.

On Monday, travellers took off for the United States again, while the passing of U.S. President Joe Biden's infrastructure bill and betterthan-expected Chinese exports helped paint a picture of a recovering global economy.

Brent crude rose 31 cents, or 0.4%, to \$83.74 a barrel by 1150 GMT, after gaining 0.8%



Shot in the arm: The reopening of U.S. borders for vaccinated travellers is seen giving a boost to oil demand. • REUTERS

Jet fuel

"With the reopening of U.S. borders for vaccinated travellers, jet fuel demand ought to receive a healthy boost," said Tamas Varga of oil broker PVM.

'The passage of the \$1 trillion U.S. infrastructure bill in Congress is also expected to provide additional help."

The price of Brent has ri-

sen more than 60% this year and hit \$86.70, a three-year high, on Oct. 25, supported by supply restraint by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies, known as OPEC+, and recovering demand.

At a meeting last week. OPEC+ decided to stick to its existing pace of easing of record output cuts and rebuff U.S. pleas to pump more helping to keep supply tight for the near term in the view of some analysts.

JPMorgan Chase said global demand for oil in November was already almost back to pre-pandemic levels of 100 million barrels per day, following 2020's collapse.

### M&M net jumps eightfold

Q2 profit at ₹1,432 crore as cost cuts help shore up margins

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI

Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (M&M) reported an eightfold jump in standalone secondquarter net profit after exceptional items at ₹1,432 crore, aided by volume growth and cost cuts.

Profit was boosted by a sharply lower impairment charge on long-term investments of ₹255 crore, against ₹1,149.46 crore in the yearearlier period. Revenue rose 15% to ₹13,305 crore.

Demand outstripped supply last quarter and the auto business continued to see a strong booking pipeline, top company executives said.

The introduction of the XUV 700 saw 'overwhelming' response, the SUV and tractor maker said, adding that more than 70,000 book-



ings had been made to date. In the Farm Equipment sector M&M's market share

for tractors increased 1.9

percentage points to 40.1%. The firm said volumes of electric three-wheelers increased more than fourfold.

The company added that it would invest ₹13,500 crore over three years to develop new products and invest in subsidiaries. This includes

₹6,000 crore for the traditional auto business and ₹3,000 crore in the electric vehicles (EV) unit. While ₹3,000 crore would be invested in the farm equipment sector, ₹1,500 crore would go to the subsidiaries.

The company said it would introduce 13 new SUVs including 8 EVs by 2027 and that they were under various stages of development. "We have seen significant all around improvement in our performance this quarter," MD and CEO Anish Shah said.

"Commodity prices have impacted our margins in both the auto and farm business, but our focus on cost management and optimisation has helped mitigate some of the impact," said group CFO Manoj Bhat.

### RBI lifts curbs on Diners Club card issuance

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The RBI has lifted curbs imposed on Diners Club International, enabling the firm to onboard new card customers in India.

"In view of the satisfactory compliance demonstrated by Diners Club International Ltd. with the RBI circular dated April 6, 2018 on Storage of Payment System Data, the restrictions imposed have been lifted with immediate effect," the Reserve Bank of India said in a circular.

The RBI, had by an order dated April 23, 2021, imposed restrictions on Diners Club from onboarding new domestic customers onto its card network from May 1, 2021.

### Domestic air traffic grew 25% in October, says ICRA

Fewer COVID cases, leisure travel cited

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Domestic air passenger traffic grew about 25% with 87-88 lakh trips in October. compared with 71 lakh trips in the preceding month, rating agency ICRA said.

The rise was in large part due to the ebb in COVID-19 infections, and impetus for leisure travel during the festive season, the agency said.

Domestic airlines together conducted 72,000 departures, registering an increase of 18% in capacity deployed compared with September. Last month, average daily departures were at 2,400 compared with 2,100 in September. The average number of passengers per flight was 122, against an



average of 117. "Though the recovery continued in October 2021, demand continues to be subdued from the corporate traveller segment as reflected by passenger traffic being lower by [about] 28% in October 2021 compared to pre-COVID levels," said Suprio Banerjee, VP and sector head, ICRA.

With the easing of curbs, airlines have reverted to their pre-COVID schedules.

### Manali Petro Q2 net jumps to ₹120 crore

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Manali Petrochemicals Ltd. (MPL), part of AM International, Singapore, has posted a more than sixfold increase in standalone net profit for the second quarter ended September to ₹120 crore from ₹18 crore.

Revenue from operations more than doubled to ₹404 crore from ₹195 crore in the same period last year, the company said in a regulatory filing.

"We expect to maintain a similar performance in the coming period, subject to imports into India, which have remained subdued for more than a year due to global market conditions," said managing di-

### MRF net dives 55% on rising raw material costs

Tyremaker declares dividend of ₹3

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT CHENNAI

MRF Ltd.'s standalone net profit for the second quarter ended September contracted 54.6% to ₹183 crore predominantly on account of rising raw material costs.

The tyre manufacturer had reported standalone net profit from continuing operations of ₹403 crore a year earlier, it said in a regulatory filing.

Revenue from operations grew to ₹4,832 crore from ₹4,186 crore a year earlier. Cost of material consumed grew to ₹3,805 crore from ₹2,249 crore. Total expenses climbed

27% to ₹4,672 crore. For the six-month period ended September 30, reve-



₹6,617 crore, cost of materials more than doubled to ₹7,021 crore. Net profit contracted to ₹345 crore from ₹420 crore. The board declared an in-

terim dividend of ₹3 per

### Contractors to get 75% funds under new rule

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

To address liquidity issues facing the construction sector, the government has framed rules that will allow for the release of 75% of the amount to contractors against a bank guarantee in cases where a department has challenged an arbitral award.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) had in November 2019 permitted government departments to pay contractors 75% amount awarded to a contractor by a dispute settling arbitration panel.

This was to be done in cases where the arbitration challenged.

### Snarled supply chains force manufacturing exodus from Asia

Fashion and shoe retailers relocating production to Balkans, Latin America to sites closer to their stores in U.S., Europe

Major clothing and shoe companies are moving production to countries closer to their U.S. and European stores, smarting from a resurgence in cases of the Delta variant of the novel coronavirus in Vietnam and China that slowed or shut down production for several weeks earlier this year.

The disclosures come amid a massive shipping logjam that is driving up costs and forcing companies to rethink their globe-spanning supply chains and low-cost manufacturing hubs in Asia..

The latest example is Spanish fashion retailer Mango, which told Reuters on Friday it has "accelerated" its process of increasing local

production in countries such as Turkey, Morocco and Portugal. In 2019, the company largely sourced its products from China and Vietnam. Mango told Reuters that it would "considerably" expand the number of units manufactured locally in Europe in 2022.

Brazil, Mexico gain

Similarly, U.S. shoe retailer Steve Madden on Wednesday said it had pulled back production in Vietnam and had shifted 50% of its footwear production to Brazil and Mexico from China, while rubber clogs maker Crocs said last month it was moving production to countries including Indonesia and Bosnia.

Bulgaria, Ukraine, Roma-



surged to \$436.65 million in the first half of 2021. • REUTERS

nia, the Czech Republic, Morocco and Turkey were some of the countries drawing new interest from clothing and shoe producers, though China continues to produce a large share of the apparel for U.S. and European clothing

"We are seeing a lot of growth in freight and trucking activity in the former Soviet Republics... a big rise in Hungary and Romania," said Barry Conlon, chief executive of Overhaul, a supply chain risk management firm. In Turkey, apparel exports

2020, exports hit \$17 billion. **Business boom in Bosnia** In Bosnia & Herzegovina, exports of textiles, leather and footwear amounted to million marka (\$436.65 million) in the first half of 2021, which was high-

are expected to reach \$20

billion this year, an all-time

high, driven by a spike in or-

ders from the European Un-

ion, Turkey's Union of Cham-

bers Clothing and Garment

Council data showed. In

er than for all of 2020. "Many companies from the European Union, which is our most important trading partner, are looking for new suppliers and new supply chains in the Balkan market," said Professor Muris Pozderac, secretary of the association of textile, clothing, leather and footwear in Bosnia & Herzegovina. In Guatemala, where

Nordstrom significantly shifted its private-label volume production in 2020, clothing exports were a touch over \$1 billion as of the end of August, up 34.2% from 2020 and even 8.8% higher than in 2019.

To be sure, many companies are also still heavily reliant on Vietnam, where recent production stoppages have caused significant disruptions. Vietnam's government said in October that it will fall short of its garment exports target this year, by \$5 billion in a worst-case scenario, due to the impacts of coronavirus restrictions and a shortage of workers.

### FM to nudge PSB heads to lend more

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is scheduled to meet heads of public sec tor banks (PSBs) next week to review the performance of the lenders and the progress made by them to support the economy battered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Banks would be urged to sanction loans for productive sectors to accelerate revival of the economy, sources said.

According to sources, the two-day meeting would commence on November 17 and undertake a review of various segments, progress in government schemes including Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

### Split teams, captaincy and coaches too — give Dhoni a bigger role



BETWEEN WICKETS SURESH MENON

It is time India began to take T20 cricket seriously. That might be a strange thing to say about a country that won the inaugural World Cup in 2007 and changed the face of the sport the following year with the IPL which remains the top tournament in the T20 world.

But things change quickly in T20, and I don't mean just in the course of a match or an innings. What was important yesterday – Test match experience, for instance – often turns out to be a handicap. What works for one team need not work for

Since it is a new format, less than two decades old, almost every match, every change, every nuance is recorded. Patterns can be discerned. Changes can sometimes be anticipated.

There are things happening in T20

tournaments around the world that need to be understood or at least acknow-It doesn't matter if Indian cricketers are

not allowed to play in these, but we need a

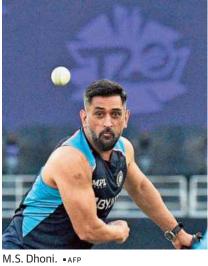
team that analyses threads and checks

how these changes apply to India. It is a full-time job, and needs a full-time team of analysts who focus on nothing else. **Crucial difference** 

What we need in the backroom are not cricket people who understand statistics, but statisticians who know cricket. The difference is not subtle, and it may be cru-One of the features of the T20 format is

that it can turn the basics of the longer game on its head – in fact it is expected to. You don't get your eye in as a batsman, vou don't mix caution with aggression, you don't rely on singles to upset a bowler's rhythm, a dot-ball is more precious than a perfect delivery which is edged for four; some are cliches in the longer game.

A bowler has 24 deliveries to make his mark, a batsman sometimes even fewer. Contrarily, wickets don't matter for a batsman, nor do boundaries matter for a



By all accounts, the nation seems to have heaved a sigh of relief that a player and personality of Rahul Dravid's stature has been persuaded to take over as national coach. He has known many of the players from their Under-19 days, and understands the game better than most. Coaching the national team will come with its challenges though - the same players who looked up to him as teenagers would have developed egos large enough to fill a room! It is a lesson Anil Kumble learnt to his cost when he had to quit because the captain was unhappy with him.

### Distinct sport

In a previous column, I made the point that India should look at T20 as a distinct form of sport and choose a captain for whom it existed even as he was growing up. India have been conservative in their approach to the format, and need to think out of the box. Having a young captain like Rishabh might be one way to go.

Another – and this is important too – would be to split not just the teams and captaincy but the coaches as well. And that's where Mahendra Singh Dhoni would come in. Perhaps India could go one step further and appoint him not just the T20 coach, but the sole selector as well in the format He has the experience, is one of the

greats of the format and would work best given a free hand. It is a big task, taking sole responsibility, as football coaches around the world have discovered. But at least the lines of communication

are clear.

I am not sure quite what Dhoni was doing at the recent World T20 in the UAE; international players don't need 'mentors' to look after them. They need decisionmakers, and Dhoni has been one of the best in the business.

This will leave Dravid free to focus on Test cricket and One-Day Internationals; he was a master of both, with over 10,000 runs in each format. T20 is becoming increasingly specialised, and calls for a specialist coach and selector, and Dhoni fits the bill well.

### Not the time for 'if onlys'

Making excuses for the Indian defeat in the UAE will only perpetuate the mistakes the team made. We cannot wallow in a series of "if onlys". If only India had won the toss in the matches they lost. If only they hadn't run into Shaheen Afridi so early in the tournament. If only they had been bolder in their selection. If only, if only...

It is time to forget the tournament as a bad dream, and start afresh, with a new captain, a new coach and a team of T20 players who relish playing the format. It seems ironic that the IPL is ideal preparation for all teams (not Pakistan, of course) except India!

### Mitrabha Guha is India's 72nd GM

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Mitrabha Guha has scored his final norm to become the 72nd Grandmaster of the country. He defeated GM Nikola Sedlak of Serbia in the ninth round of the GM Third Saturday Mix 220 event at Novi Sad, Serbia, on Monday to secure his final GM norm.

Guha, who had crossed 2500 in live ratings when he beat FM Aradhya Garg in the second round, became the ninth GM from West Bengal.

Guha, who has been without a coach for three years, got his first GM norm at the Sant Marti Open in Spain in 2018 and his second GM norm at the Sheikh Russel International GM tournament in Bangladesh last month.

### Chance for Kiwis to give it back to England What went wrong for India?

How the spinners from both sides fare could be defining; Bairstow likely to open with Buttler

### ICC T20 WC

AMOL KARHADKAR

ABU DHAB

The ICC men's T20 World Cup is in its climactic phase. The quintessential cricket fans cannot ask for a better face-off than the one between England and New Zealand in the first semifinal at the Zayed Cricket Stadium here on Wednesday.

Over the last five years, this has emerged as one of the fiercest rivalries in ICC Championships. Be it World T20 in 2016 or the ODI World Cup in 2019, Eoin Morgan's marauders and Kane Williamson's warriors have faced each other in the Worlds' knockouts.

With England toppling New Zealand in both those ties, the latter would be gunning to avenge the defeats and keep alive its hunt for an elusive World title in white ball cricket despite being one of the most consistent sides in World tournaments over the last decade.

#### **Consistent unit**

Williamson would certainly be optimistic about overcoming England this time around, thanks to the clinical performance so far. Other than the loss to Pakistan in the Super 12 stage, New Zealand has hardly put a foot wrong. With its dynamic and skilful bow**High-intensity duel** 

Sparks could fly when England, looking to enter its third final at the ICC T20 World Cup,



We've played each other a number of times. The evolution of the England team, particularly the white ball side, has been significant over a number of years. And they have a lot of experienced T20 players on

SEMIFINALS

ling attack and a rejigged batting order - with Daryl Mitchand Devon Conway playing their new roles to perfection - New Zealand has

over the last few

been extremely

World Cups, not only

the recent ones. New

Zealand have always

competitive in and

around semifinals

and finals... so we are

looking forward to

the challenge

been a consistent unit.

England would be hoping to repeat its feats in 2016 and 2019 despite the absence of two key stars who had shone

those memorable encounters.

their side

New Zealand captain

If it was Ben Stokes' assault that helped England clinch





**TODAY'S MATCH** 

New Zealand **ABU DHABI, 7.30 P.M. IST** 



LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD)

Jason Roy's blitzkrieg had helped the team waltz into the WT20 final in 2016.

With Stokes unavailable for the tournament and Roy ruled out with injury, England will be forced to tweak the combination.

It has a readymade replacement in Jonny Bairstow to partner an in-form Jos Buttler but a forced change could be a cause for concern.

#### Seasoned pace duo

New Zealand, meanwhile, will be banking on its seasoned pace duo of Trent Boult and Tim Southee to counter Buttler & Co. The long boundaries in Abu Dhabi will mean that the spinners will be the game-changers. How Adil Rashid and Moeen Ali fare in comparison with Ish Sodhi and Mitchell Santner may prove defining.

AMOL KARHADKAR

For the first time since the World T20 in 2012, India failed to make the cut for the knockouts in an ICC Championship. While the management has been quick to cite the toss, dew and bubble fatigue as the reasons, a look at some factors that contributed to the early exit.

Selection: The original squad of 15 lacked balance as it had five spinners and three pacers. A last-ditch effort was made to rectify it by bringing Shardul Thakur in place of Axar Patel.

The team management made things worse by not playing R. Ashwin for the important games against Pakistan and New Zealand. What made the decision even more bizarre was that most teams preferred to play three spinners given the conditions in the UAE.

With neither Varun Chakravarthy nor Ravindra Jadeja able to pick up wickets in the middle overs, India's bowling lacked bite in the first two matches.

Though Ashwin was included for the final three contests and formed a potent spin combination with Ravindra Jadeja, it was too

Persisting with Hardik Pandya who, according to chief selector Chetan Sharma, was to bowl "in every match" wasn't a good ploy



Time to contemplate: Kohli was left to ponder over yet another failed campaign at an ICC tournament. ■ GETTY IMAGES

Batting order: Given the tendency of India's top three - Rohit Sharma, K.L. Rahul and Virat Kohli – to get their eye in before going after the bowling, it was always going to be risky.

A left-hander was missed at the top of the order though Ishan Kishan got a chance to open against the Kiwis.

With the next T20 World Cup less than a year away, the new think-tank will have to ponder over the ideal batting order.

Bubble fatigue: Once India lost the first two games and was virtually out of the sem-

ifinal race, bubble fatigue, the toss and dew factor were cited as the reasons by the team during the limited interactions with the media.

It was conveniently forgotten that just before the tournament, the players were touting IPL's second half as an ideal preparation for the World Cup as it was being played at the same

With Indian cricket's ecosystem - starting with the BCCI – putting the cash-rich IPL ahead of international commitments, an Indian player seeking rest from the IPL is highly unlikely.

#### **QUICK SINGLES**



#### Yorkshire apologises to Rafiq in racism issue

Cricketer Azeem Rafig was praised for his bravery in reporting racism and bullying at Yorkshire by the new chairman of the club on Monday. "We're sorry for what you and your family have experienced and the way in which we've handled this. I thank Azeem for his bravery in speaking out. Let me be clear that racism or discrimination in any form is not banter," new Yorkshire chairman Kamlesh Patel said, AP

#### Asif Ali, Delany win **ICC's October awards**

Pakistan batter Asif Ali and Ireland all-rounder Laura Delany were on Tuesday named the ICC male and female players of the month for October. Asif Ali beat Bangladesh's Shakib Al Hasan and Namibia's David Wiese, while Delany prevailed over teammate Gaby Lewis and Zimbabwe's Mary-Anne Musonda. РТІ

### The bubble will burst: Shastri

'They have shown the drive to hang in there, no complaints'

AMOL KARHADKAR

Minutes after finishing his last assignment of a long streak as the India head coach, Ravi Shastri issued an indirect caution to the Indian cricket administrators with regard to managing India's hectic workload.

"When you're six months in a bubble... lot of players in this team play all three formats of the game. In the last 24 months, they have been home for 25 days. I don't care who you are, if your name is (Don) Bradman, if you are in a bubble as well, your average will come down because vou are human" Shastri said in Dubai on Monday night after India finished third in its group of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

### Got to be careful

"This is not something where you just put petrol on the back side and expect the guy to move on in overdrive. It doesn't happen that way. That's why I say in life it's not what you accomplish, it's what you overcome; that's what this team has done. They have shown the drive to hang in there, no complaints. But sooner or later,



Well done! Shastri can leave a contented man. ■ FILE PHOTO

the bubble will burst, so you have got to be careful."

With the suspended Indian Premier League to be squeezed between the England tour and the World Cup, the Indian team hardly trained together for a week for the World Cup. Asked whether it is impractical to prioritise World tournaments ahead of IPL from an administrator's perspective, Shastri played safe.

"That's not my job, first of all. That is something the administrators, not just from India, it is the others around the globe who will also be looking at it before big tournaments to ensure that there is a little bit of gap so that the guys are made fresh and ready to play," Shastri said.

The former India captain, who reiterated India has emerged as "the best team ever" in Indian cricket history during his tenure, had no doubts that a player can now raise his hand up, seek rest and come back afresh to claim his spot in the team.

Freedom of expression "The communication has been free. We have managed players, especially with the training methods and everything. One thing, we were never short on communication," he said. "Everyone was free to speak. No one was treated as a junior. There were no seniors and juniors on this side. Everyone had the freedom to express him-

### Rohit takes over the T20 reins

Kohli rested for series; IPL stars Ruturaj, Venkatesh included



Rohit. • GETTY IMAGES

SPORTS REPORTER

Rohit Sharma will lead India in the three-match T20I series against New Zealand which begins at Jaipur on November 17. K.L. Rahul will be his deputy.

Ruturaj Gaikwad and Venkatesh Iyer, who performed exceptionally well in IPL 2021, were included in the squad. Yuzvendra Chahal, who was dropped for the T20 World Cup, returned to the side while R. Ashwin retained his spot.

The senior selection committee, headed by Chetan



Sharma, picked a 16-member squad for the series. Virat Kohli who relinguished his captaincy from the shor-

test format, has been rested. The committee also picked an India-A squad, led by Priyank Panchal, that will travel to South Africa from November 23 to play in three

matches

Bloemfontein. The squads and schedule: For T20Is against NZ: Rohit

four-day

Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (Vice-capt.), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Shreyas Iyer, Suryakumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant (wk), Ishan Kishan (wk), Venkatesh Iyer,



Yuzvendra Chahal, R. Ashwin, Axar Patel, Avesh Khan, Bhuvhar, Harshal Patel and Mohammed Siraj

The dates: Nov. 17 (Jaipur); Nov. 19 (Ranchi); Nov. 21 (Kolkata).

India-A (for South Africa tour): Priyank Panchal (Capt.), Prithvi Shaw, Abhimanyu Easwaran, Devdutt Padikkal, Sarfaraz Khan, B. Aparajith, Upendra Yadav (wk), K. Gowtham, Rahul Chahar, Saurabh Kumar, Navdeep Saini, Umran Malik, Ishan Porel and Arzan Nagwaswalla.

The dates (four-day games): Nov. 23-26; Nov. 29-Dec. 2; Dec. 6-9 (all at Bloemfontein).

### named RCB head coach

Sanjay Bangar



Bangar. • FILE PHOTO

SPORTS REPORTER

Former India all-rounder Sanjay Bangar has been named the head coach of Roval Challengers Bangalore (RCB) for the upcomseason, RCB nounced on Tuesday.

Bangar will take over from Mike Hesson, who had donned the role for the second leg of IPL 2021. Hesson will remain with the team in his existing role as Director Operations.

Bangar had joined RCB as batting consultant for IPL 2021. He has served as the batting coach for the Indian team, and has coaching experience in the IPL as well.

### Sarnobat takes silver

### **SHOOTING**

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Rahi Sarnobat shot the silver in women's 25-metre sports pistol in the President's Cup shooting championship in Wroclaw, Poland. Doreen Vennekamp of

Germany shot brilliantly in the first few rounds of the final to take the lead and sustained it to push Sarnobat to the silver 33 points to 31. Manu Bhaker also made

the final, but placed sixth. Bhaker made the mixed rapid fire pistol gold medal match partnering Ozgur Varlik of Turkey. The duo beat Xiao Jianuixuan of China and Peeter Olesk of Estonia 9-7 in the final.

Chinki Yadav and Marko Carrillo of Peru placed eighth in the second stage of qualification.

Anjum Moudgil shot 584 in the second stage and failed to qualify for the final by one point in the women's rifle 3-position event. She had shot 587 in the first stage in the 10-shooter field.

In the mixed team competition of the 3-position event, Moudgil and Petar



Rahi Sarnobat. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Gorsa of Croatia placed ninth in the first stage with a combined score of 878.

The results: Women's 25m sports pistol: 1. Doreen Vennekamp (Ger) 33 (588); 2. Rahi Sarnobat 31 (583); 3. Mathilde Lamolle (Fra) 27 (582); 6. Manu Bhaker 17 (583); 9. Chinki Yadav 578.

Mixed rapid fire pistol: 1. Ozgur Varlik (Tur) & Manu Bhaker 9 (366) 557; 2. Xiao Jianuixuan (Chn) & Peeter Olesk (Est) 7 (370) 560; 3. Doreen Vennekamp (Ger) & Clement Bessaguet (Fra) 10 (364) 569; 4. Kim Minjung (Kor) & Olier Geis (Ger) 4 (356), 549; 8. Chinki Yadav & Marko Carrillo (Per) 337 (547).

### Top honours









Proud moment: The President of India Ram Nath Kovind presented the Padma Shri to Mouma Das (table tennis), K.Y. Venkatesh (para-games), P. Anitha (basketball),

Leela Nambiar (on behalf of late athletics coach O.M. Nambiar), Sudha Singh (athletics), and Virender Singh (wrestling) in New Delhi on Monday. • TWITTER





### Varun and Ganapathy clinch gold

K. KEERTHIVASAN

The Indian pair of Varun Thakkar and K.C. Ganapathy won the gold medal in the Asian 49er sailing championships at Al Mussannah Sports City, Oman, on Tuesday. Though the two finished 10th overall, they were the only Asians in the top 10. This is Varun and Ganapathy's third medal at the Asians after the first place in 2018 and runner-up spot in 2019.

Varun and Ganapathy thanked their personal coach Bunny Warren for the triumph. "The competition was one of the toughest we've faced so far. We pulled as a unit along with coach Warren. We've established a good rapport [with the coach]," said Varun. Ganapathy said the

Asians were good preparation for the World Championships at the same venue from Nov. 16 to 21. "We have a long way to go, but we are slowly getting there," said Ganapathy.

### Delhi loses, out of knockouts

Hyderabad defeats Uttar Pradesh, qualifies directly for the quarterfinals

#### MUSHTAQ ALI

Delhi was knocked out of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy after suffering a 13run defeat to Saurashtra in Rohtak on Tuesday.

claim the second spot in Group E for a spot in the preliminary quarterfinals, but its batters failed to accelerate and fell short, chasing a victory target of 167. The team has lost to Hyderabad on Monday.

even with 3.4 overs left when Lalit Yadav (28, 12b, 3x4, 2x6) was dismissed by Jayrestricted to 153/5.



defeated Uttar Pradesh for its fifth win in as many games. Tanmay Agarwal scored his second half-century in two days (62, 46b, 7x4, 1x6) and Buddhi Rahul scored an unbeaten 38 as Hyderabad posted 147/7 in its 20 overs.

UP, in reply, was bundled

out for 118 in 19.3 overs, leftarm medium pacer Chama Milind claiming a career-best 5/8 in 3.2 overs.

Hyderabad made it directly for the quarterfinals, while Saurashtra will feature in the preliminary quarterfinals.

Chandigarh registered its first win in the competition in an inconsequential match in Sultanpur.

In a nip-and-tuck affair, Chandigarh chased down a target of 162 with three balls to spare. Manan Vohra (74. 60b, 3x4, 4x6) and Sarul Kanwar (38, 22b, 4x4, 2x6) were the chief contributors for the side.

#### TUESDAY'S SCORES AND FINAL STANDINGS

Elite A (Lucknow): Odisha 20 (Subhranshu Senapati 39, Suboth Bhati 4/27) lost to Pondicherry 136/4 in 19 overs (Ramachandran Ragupathy 39, Paras Dogra 54

Punjab 145/6 in 20 overs (Shubman Gill 34, Gurkeerat Mann 43 n.o.) lost to Tamil Nadu 148/3 in 171 overs (N Jagadeesan 67, Vijay Shankar 59 n.o.).

Maharashtra 177/3 in 20 overs (Ruturaj Gaikwad 44, Yash Nahar 103 n.o.) bt Goa 104 in 18.1 overs (Shubham Ranjane 35, Satyajeet Bachhav 3/27).

Final standings: Tamil Nadu 5-4-1-16 (+0.564), Maharashtra 5-4-1-16 (+2.277), Punjab 5-3-2-12 (+1.619), Goa 5-2-3-8 (-1.368), Odisha 5-1-4-4 (-0.957), Pondicherry 5-1-4-4 (-2.073). (Read as Played, Won, Lost, Points and NRR). TN topped the group as it had defeated Maharashtra.

Elite B (Guwahati): Mumbai 193/2 in 20 overs (Prithvi Shaw 83, Ajinkya Rahane 71) bt Baroda 111/9 in 20 overs (Tanush Kotian 4/16).

Karnataka 134/8 in 20 overs (Karun Nair 44, Manish Pandey 32, Mukesh Kumar 3/ 33) lost to Bengal 138/3 in 18 overs (Abhimanyu Easwaran 51 n.o., Kaif Ahmed 34 n.o.).

Chhattisgarh 176/3 in 20 overs (Shashank Chandrasekar 67, Sanjeet Desai 62 n.o., Amandeep Khare 35 n.o.) bt Services 141 in 19.5 overs (Rahul Singh

64, Anshul Gupta 34, Shubham Agarwal 5/13). Final standings: Bengal 5-4-1-16 (+0.995), Karnataka 5-4-1-16 (+0.379), Mumbai 5-3-2-12 (+0.990), Chhattisgarh 5-2-3-8 (-0.146), Baroda 5-1-4-4 (-0.750), Services 5-1-4-4 (-1.513). Bengal topped

Karnataka. Elite C (Vadodara): Himachal 148/7 in 20 overs (Prashant Chopra 35, Raghav Dhawan 57, C.V. Stephen 4/11) bt Andhra 118 in 20 overs (Ashwin Hebbar 43, Ricky Bhui 41, Rishi Dhawan 3/16,

Pankaj Jaswal 5/18).

the group as it had defeated

Jammu & Kashmir 156/6 in 20 overs (Qamran Iqbal 37, latin Wadhwan 45) lost to Jharkhand 157/5 in 19.2 overs (Ishank Jaggi 30, Virat Singh 40).

Rajasthan 155/6 in 20 overs (Mahipal Lomror 36, Deepak Hooda 75) bt Haryana 125 in 19.1 overs (Chaitanya Bishnoi 41, Kamlesh Nagarkoti 3/25, Mohit Jain

Final standings: Rajasthan 5-5-0-20 (+1.242), Himachal 5-3-2-12 (-0.260),Jharkhand 5-2-3-8 (-0.137), Andhra 5-2-3-8 (-0.156), Haryana 5-2-3-8 (-0.315), J & K 5-1-4-4 (-0.360).

Elite D (New Delhi): Bihar 118/6 in 20 overs (Mangal Mahrour 64 n.o. Teias Patel 3/27) lost to Guiarat 121/5 in 19.1 overs (Urvil Patel 33, Het Patel 45 n.o.).

Railways 165/6 in 20 overs (Mrunal Devdhar 51,

Mukhtar Hussain 3/26) bt Assam 117/6 in 20 overs (Denish Das 35).

Madhya Pradesh 171/5 in 20 overs (Kuldeep Gehi 31, Rajat Patidar 77, Parth Sahani 32) lost to Kerala 172/2 in 18 overs (Sachin Baby 51 n.o., Sanju Samson 56 n.o.).

Final standings: Gujarat 5-4-1-16 (+1.109), Kerala 5-3-2-12 (+0.363),MP 5-3-2-12 (+1.147), Assam 5-2-3-8 (-0.533), Railways 5-2-3-8 (-0.654), Bihar 5-1-4-4 (-1.370). Kerala finished runner-up as it had defeated MP. Elite E (Haryana): Ut-

tarakhand 161/5 in 20 overs (Sanvam Arora 68 n.o., Kunal Chandela 30) lost to Chandigarh 164/4 in 19.3 overs (Manan Vohra 74, Sarul Kanwar 38, Agrim Tiwari 3/26).

Saurashtra 166/6 in 20 overs (Sheldon Jackson 79 n.o., Chirag Jani 42) bt Delhi 153/5 in 20 overs (Dhruv Shorey 33, Anuj Rawat 31).

Hyderabad 147/7 in 20 overs (Tanmay Agarwal 62, Rahul Buddhi 38 n.o.) bt Uttar Pradesh 118 in 19.2 overs (Akshdeep Nath 36, Chama Milind 5/8).

Final standings: Hyderabad 5-5-0-20 (+1.114), Saurashtra 5-4-1-16 (+0.511), Delhi 5-3-2-12 (+0.982), UP 5-2-3-8 (-0.399), Chandigarh 5-1-4-4 (-0.973), Uttarakhand 5-0-5-0 (-1.244).

Plate (Vijayawada): Nagaland 63 in 18.4 overs (Ajoy Sarkar 3/10) lost to Tripura 67/1 in 7.3 overs (Samrat Singha

Vidarbha 205/5 in 20 overs (Atharva Taide 35, Akshay Wadkar 40, Jitesh Sharma 54 n.o.) bt Sikkim 75/8 in 20 overs (Liyan Khan 30, Akshay Karnewar 4/5).

Manipur 100/6 in 20 overs (L.M. Keishangbam 31) lost to Mizoram 105/2 in 15 overs (Uday Kaul 31, Taruwar

Kohli 38 n.o.). Meghalaya 194/3 in 20 overs (Chirag Khurana 78, Kishan Lyngdoh 82) bt Arunachal Pradesh 102/6 in 20

Final standings: Vidarbha 5-5-0-20 (+4.967), Tripura 5-4-1-16 (+2.151), Meghalaya 5-4-1-16 (+1.131), Nagaland 5-3-2-12 (+0.396), Sikkim 5-2-3-8 (-1.427), Mizoram 5-1-4-4 (-0.959), Manipur 5-1-4-4 (-2.708), Arunachal 5-0-5-0 (-3.322).

Final phase (all matches at New Delhi):

Pre-quarterfinal line-up (Nov. 16): Maharashtra (Elite A runner-up) vs Vidarbha (Plate group topper); Himachal (Elite C runner-up) vs Kerala (Elite D runner-up); Karnataka (Elite B runnerup) vs Saurashtra (Elite E runner-up).

**Quarterfinalists:** Tamil Nadu (Elite A topper), Bengal (Elite B), Rajasthan (Elite C), Gujarat (Elite D), Hyderabad (Elite E).

The quarterfinals will be played on Nov. 18, the semifinals on Nov. 20 and the final on Nov. 22.

### Ankita-Rosalie duo loses

#### **INDIANS ABROAD**

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Irina Khormacheva and Lidziya Marozava beat Ankita Raina and Rosalie van der Hoek of the Netherlands 7-6(3), 7-6 (2) in the doubles pre-quarterfinals of the €189,708 WTA

### Karan off to a flier

National junior champion Karan Singh got off to a flying

Karan broke Niki's serve in in the 12th game.

Singh 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

First round: Sidharth Rawat bt

The case is listed to be

"We have said, like other 11

National champions, Arund-

hati should also get selected

for the World championships

(in Istanbul in December),"

Arundhati, a three-time

Khelo India champion who

won the World youth title in

69kg in Kielce, Poland, earlier

this year, bagged her maiden

National title in 70kg at Hisar

heard on Wednesday morn-

ing, Arundhati's lawyer San-

deep Lamba said.

said Lamba.

Digvijay Pratap Singh 5-7, 6-4, 6-4; Dev Javia bt Kaza Vinayak Sharma 6-3, 6-3; Abhinav Sanieev Shanmugam bt Raghav Jaisinghani 6-2, 6-2; Karan Singh

bt Niki Poonacha 7-5, 6-1.

Qualifying (third and final round): Madhwin Kamath bt Rohan Mehra 6-2, 6-3; Faisal Qamar bt Lakshit Sood 6-2, 7-5; Ajay Malik bt Lohithaksha Bathrinath 6-4, 4-6, [12-10]; Vishnu Vardhan bt Fardeen Oamar 6-2. 6-4: Bharath Kumaran bt V.M. Ranjeet 6-3, 3-6, [12-10]; Ishague Egbal bt Lakshya Gupta 3-6, 6-4, [10-8]. Doubles (prequarterfinals): Niki Poonacha & Vishnu Vardhan bt Ankit Chopra & Aaditya Tewari 6-4, 6-4; Ajay Malik & Karan Singh bt Rishi Reddy & Abhinav Sanjeev Shanmugam 7-6(4), 6-3; Alexis Canter (GBr) & Dev Javia bt Chandril Sood & Lakshit Sood 6-3, 3-6,

Ishaque Eqbal & Faisal Qamar bt Dusty Boyer (US) & Karunuday Singh 6-2, 4-6, [10-6]; Paras Dahiya & Parikshit Somani bt Rishab Agarwal & S.D. Prajwal Dev 6-3, 6-4.

Manish Sureshkumar & V.M. Ranieet bt Jatin Dahiya & Dalwinder Singh 7-5, 6-0; Anirudh Chandrasekar & Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Kunal Anand & Shahbaaz Khan 6-4, 6-3.

### **New steps towards** inclusiveness



### **Reserve Bank of India**

introduces two innovative and customer centric schemes



### **RBI Retail Direct Scheme**

- New avenue for retail investment in government securities
- Retail investors can easily open and maintain their government securities account online with the RBI, free of cost
- Buying and selling of government securities by retail investors on the digital platform



### Reserve Bank - Integrated Ombudsman Scheme

- One Nation-One Ombudsman' with one portal, one email and one address
- Single reference point for customers to file complaints, submit documents, track status and provide feedback
- Integrated scheme for customer complaints against RBI regulated entities
- Toll-free number for assistance in filing complaints and obtaining information on grievance redress, with multi-lingual support

### Virtual launch by

### Prime Minister Narendra Modi

in the presence of

### **Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman**

On November 12, 2021 at 11.00 am



Scan to watch the launch event or login to: https://pmindiawebcast.nic.in







A ND-NDE



### SPORTS BUREAU

Delhi needed a win to

The team was in the hunt

dev Unadkat and Delhi was Earlier, openers Dhruv

Shorey (33, 34b, 2x4) and Anuj Rawat (31, 28b, 5x4, 1x6) gave a solid start, but it went in vain.

#### Late thrust

#### Saurashtra's innings was shepherded largely by middleorder batter Sheldon Jackson (79 n.o., 47b, 11x4, 2x6). Chirag Jani added 42 (29b, 5x4, 1x6) to provide a late

In Sultanpur, Hyderabad

tennis tournament in Linz. Other results:

\$52,080 Challenger, Knoxville, US: Singles (first round): Prajnesh Gunneswaran bt Mikael Torpegaard (Den) 6-2, 7-6(2).

\$15,000 ITF women, Monastir, Tunisia: Singles (first round): Chisa Hosonuma (Jpn) bt Jennifer Luikham 5-7, 6-4, 6-3.

### **ITF TENNIS**

### SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

start as he beat the two-time National champion Niki Poonacha 7-5, 6-1 in the first round of the \$15,000 ITF men's tennis tournament here on Tuesday.

the second game to go 3-0 up, but it was a tussle in the first set as Niki broke back in the fifth game and saved a set point in the 10th to hold serve. However, he dropped the set with two double faults

Niki served 11 double faults in the match and thus could not capitalise on the advantage of twice breaking the serve of Karan, who is fast emerging as the face of the National Tennis Centre (NTC)

with his bright game. In another match, top seed Sidharth Rawat squeezed his way past National championship finalist, Digvijay Pratap

The results:

### Arundhati moves Delhi High Court

World youth champion seeks spot in Indian side

following a revamp in weight BOXING SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT The BFI decided to select the National champions for KOLKATA

World youth champion boxer the Istanbul event. Arundhati Choudhary on However, it made an exception to pick Tokyo Olympics Tuesday moved the Delhi High Court seeking a spot in bronze medallist Lovlina Borthe World women's boxing gohain directly in 70kg for the championships-bound Indian World championships.

Arundhati claimed that she got an assurance from the BFI top brass for a trial in her weight class after the National championships. On November 4, the boxer

from Kota, Rajasthan, wrote a letter to Boxing Federation of India (BFI) president Ajay Singh, requesting him to conduct a trial in 70kg. In her letter, Arundhati said she did not seek any favours and just wanted "fair play."

Arundhati moved the court as she 'did not receive any response' from the BFI.

instagram.com/the\_hindu

FOLLOW US

# THE WOOD HINDU Text & Context



■ The TTP wants to overthrow the Pakistani

state and implement its

the Sharia across the

country

the two sides

hardline interpretation of

■ The Afghan Taliban are

facilitating talks between

#### The cash current

In ₹lakh crore, the total currency in circulation, according to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as of October 29, 2021. In value terms, the figure went up nearly 17.2% in 2020-21. The corresponding figure as of November 2016, when demonetisation was imposed, was ₹17.74 lakh crore. Government sources said, "Since cash is the most liquid form of asset, the increase in cash during the period of enormous uncertainty [due to the COVID-19 pandemic] is expected." PTI

#### Gap in doses

: Estimated % of the overall population which has been fully vaccinated. 54.3% of India's population has received at least one dose. While this figure is slightly higher than the world average of 51.09%, in terms of fully vaccinated people, India's figure of 25.5% is lower than the world average of 39.83%. A key reason for this is the gap between the two doses of Covishield, which comprises 88% of the administered vaccines in India. The spacing of 12-16 weeks is among the longest in the world.

#### Little respite

In ₹, the petrol per litre Although the Centre slashed excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹5 and ₹10 per litre, respectively, on the eve of Deepavali, and several States and Union Territories cut VAT on petroleum products too, prices at the pump continue to be high in the capital. Prior to the cuts, the retail selling price of petrol was ₹109.69. Despite all this, taxes continue to account for half of the price build-up of petrol.

### The Daily Prophets

fan-written stories based on the Harry in the popular fanfiction.net website out of a total of roughly 1.63 million contributions. There are roughly 0.84 million stories based on the Harry Potter series itself, indicating the popularity of the book series. The Twilight series (0.22 million, 13.6%), the Percy Jackson series (79,000, 4.83%), The Lord of the Rings (58,000, 3.55%) and The Hunger Games series (46,000, 2.81%) round off the top five book series.

#### **Another Grandmaster**

: Number of Indian Grandmasters (GMs). Just two days after 18-year-old Sankalp Gupta achieved his third GM norm, 20-year-old Mitrabha Guha from West Bengal emulated him by defeating GM Nikola Sedlak of Serbia in the ninth round at Novi Sad, Serbia. He is now the ninth GM from West Bengal (the first GM from the State was Dibyendu Barua who got the honour in 1991). As of July 29, 2021, the country with the most GMs was Russia with 240, followed by U.S. (96), Germany (95), Ukraine (87),

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

### A tentative truce with the Pakistan Taliban

Who are the Tehrik-e-Taliban? How does the regime change in Afghanistan alter the situation with Pakistan and the TTP?

#### STANLY JOHNY

THE GIST The story so far: The Pakistani the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), the ■ The truce will be observed between the Pakistan Government and the TTP for 30 days starting weeks-long talks held in Afghanistan November 9

The truce will be observed by both parties for 30 days starting November 9. A TTP spokesperson said in a statement that both sides agreed to form negotiation teams which will take the talks forward. While the Pakistani Government hasn't offered more details, a month ago, Prime Minister Khan, in an interview with Turkish broadcaster TRT World, had said that his Government was in talks with some TTP groups as part of a "reconciliation process". He said the Government would "forgive the TTP and that they will become normal citizens" if

# According to a report on Radio Free

report in Radio Free Europe, the TTP demanded the release of 100 of its fighters from Pakistani prisons and the implementation of Sharia in Pakistan's northwestern tribal regions. It's not clear whether all of their demands were met, but reports indicate that Pakistan will release some TTP fighters from prison as part of

### Who are the TTP?

umbrella group of militant outfits in the country's northwestern region bordering Afghanistan. As Pakistan, under pressure from the United States, carried out military operations in the tribal region from 2001-2014 to hunt for al-Qaeda and other militants who had crossed the border from Afghanistan after the 2001 NATO invasion, the local tribal groups launched an armed resistance. In 2007, this transformed into a

larger platform of militants under the leadership of Baitullah Mehsud. An ethnic Pashtun, Mehsud was associated with the Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (F), the Deobandi the 1990s, after the Taliban took Kabul, Mehsud went to Afghanistan to fight the Northern Alliance, the united front of anti-Taliban militias that was backed by India, Russia and Iran. After the Taliban regime was toppled by the American the TTP. He was killed in 2009 by a U.S. drone strike, but the organisation he founded continued to spread terror in

Pakistan. The TTP's goals in Pakistan are similar to that of the Taliban in Afghanistan. The TTP wants to overthrow the Pakistani state and Sharia across the country. They had nurtured close ties with al-Qaeda, and had carried out some of the deadliest terrorist attacks inside Pakistan, including the 2014

Peshawar school massacre in which 147 people were killed, most of them students. The Taliban's victory in Afghanistan appeared to have provided a fillip to the TTP, which has carried out a growing number of attacks on Pakistani security forces in recent months.

#### What's the role of the Afghan Taliban? While there are organisational differences

between the Afghan Taliban and the Pakistan Taliban, the two have ideological, tribal and seminary connections. Both have Pashtun roots and have links with the Deobandi seminary networks. The difference is that the Afghan Taliban's focus was entirely on fighting the foreign troops in Afghanistan and the (previous) Afghan Government. They got support from the Pakistani military intelligence. On the other side, the Pakistani establishment saw the TTP as an enemy as the outfit wanted to fight the Pakistani troops. But Pakistan appears to be addressing this problem by reaching out to the TTP through the Afghan Taliban. Pakistan had shown interest in talks with the TTP in the past as well.

### Will it hold?

It remains to be seen whether the truce will hold. And it's still unclear what compromise the Government has made to reach temporary peace. But the Imran Khan Government's decision to hold direct talks and reach a ceasefire with an organisation that is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of Pakistanis, if not thousands, will raise questions on the Government's policy towards terrorist and extremist groups. The ceasefire comes days after the Government held talks and reached an agreement with another extremist group, Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan. Earlier this year, Mr. Khan's Government had expelled the French Ambassador to the country after the TLP carried out violent protests over "blasphemous" cartoons published in France.

Now, the ceasefire with the TTP, the deadliest of the two, will strengthen the criticism that Mr. Khan is pursuing "a policy

### and India.

Government announced on Monday that it had entered into a nationwide ceasefire with outlawed terrorist group also known as the Pakistan Taliban. This was agreed upon after between the Government of Prime Minister Imran Khan and the TTP.

#### What are the terms of the truce?

they agreed to lay down arms. According to a

#### Europe, the TTP demanded the release of 100 of its fighters from Pakistani prisons and the implementation of Sharia in Pakistan's northwestern tribal

confidence-building measures.

The Pakistan Taliban emerged as an

Islamic party of Maulana Fazlur Rahman. In invasion, Mehsud emerged as a major tribal leader in the Pakistani tribal belt, where he brought together five militia groups to form

implement its hardline interpretation of the

of appeasement" with the hardliners.

TTP members patrolling Shawal in the Pakistani region of south Waziristan in 2012. • AP

### **EXPLAINER**

### Localising the labour force through reservations

What is the Andhra Pradesh Employment of Local Candidates in Industries/Factories Act? What has been its implications?

The story so far: On Saturday, the Haryana Government notified a law reserving 75% jobs for locals, which will come into effect from January 15, 2022. The law requires firms to reserve 75% of all jobs offering a salary of less than ₹30,000 a month for eligible candidates of State domicile. Following the Haryana move, the Jharkhand Assembly passed a Bill providing 75% reservation for locals in the private sector for salaries up to ₹40,000 a month. In 2019, the Andhra Pradesh Government had passed a similar law - the A.P. Employment of Local Candidates in Industries/Factories

#### What did the Andhra law stipulate? The Andhra Pradesh law, passed by the Assembly in July 2019, and notified

promptly next month, reserved 75% of jobs for locals in industries and factories, including any joint venture and project taken up under the public-private partnership (PPP) mode. Where suitable local candidates were not available, the industry or factory would be given three years to train local candidates with



"active collaboration of the Government". The Government also laid down that industry would have to apply for any exemptions from the Department of Labour, Employment and Training before sourcing employees from other

#### How has the industry coped so far? For now, the priority for the State, according to industry experts, is on

getting new industries to absorb the local candidates in phases, as implementing the law for existing workforce would

entail terminating employees who may be from other States. The Government is not forcing employers to implement the Act for various reasons, which mainly include the prevailing gloomy industrial scenario, largely attributable to the pandemic's aftermath.

#### Has the law been challenged yet? While the Government has begun

training programmes to develop skilled labour to cater to various sectors and implement the Act, an advocate has filed a writ petition challenging the law's

constitutional validity. The State, the advocate stated, has no power to prescribe the domicile or place of birth or place of residence as a requirement for public employment.

### What do private industries feel?

The Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry Federation president-elect P. Bhaskar Rao told The *Hindu* that while seeking to implement the Act, the importance of productivity levels of workers should not be overlooked. For instance, the workforce from Odisha and Bihar is highly productive compared to workers belonging to the Telugu-speaking States, he said. Mr. Rao said the Government has "not compelled us to implement the Act."

Another issue which the industries are grappling with is the uncertainty whether local candidates will continue in their jobs and the possibility of them resisting the entry of job-seekers from other States if the situation necessitates outsourcing.

#### What are the takeaways for Haryana and Iharkhand?

For Haryana, already home to a thriving commercial, IT and automobile industry, a firm implementation of the law could

drive away existing investors as well as dry up fresh greenfield and brownfield investments.

#### "Instead of compelling firms to hire locals, the State can consider giving a 25% subsidy to firms as an incentive for hiring locals," Mr. Rao said. The industry chamber has also suggested to the State that if reservations have to be made, they should begin with a lower threshold of 20%-25% and give time for the State's youth to inculcate and hone their specialised skill sets.

While mineral-rich Jharkhand will have its own set of unique issues and challenges in implementing the job reservation plan, we have to wait for the final rules and implementation date to be notified before assessing its implications.

The broader trend of raising the sons of the soil issue for electoral gains in States will hurt the investment climate across the country, warned Amitava Ghosh, co-founder and principal partner at SSA Compliance Services LLP. "If more States follow suit, there will surely be an extreme level of talent crunch across industries in different States, and the free movement of India's manpower resources within the nation will be threatened," he said.

The Andhra Pradesh law, passed by the Assembly in July, 2019, and notified promptly next month, reserved 75% of jobs for locals in industries and factories

■ The industries are grappling with the uncertainty of whether local candidates will continue in their jobs and the possibility of them resisting the entry of job-seekers from other

■ A firm implementation of the law could drive away existing investors as well as dry up fresh greenfield and brownfield investments







Building blocks: Gujarat had passed a rule in the 1990s making it mandatory for industries and employers to give 85% of jobs to local people. • AFP

#### FROM THE ARCHIVES

# Lip service to labour rights

The exodus of migrant labour from Gujarat highlights the indifference of States to their well-being

### THE GIST

 Employers send
 contractors to distant unexplored places to gather labour at the lowest possible wage rate

■ Migrant workers earn low wages, work very long hours without any overtime benefits, and are almost without any leave or social protection

■ Local workers resent the presence of migrant workers who they feel take away their jobs in factories and other places on account of being cheap labour

INDIRA HIRWAY

The Gujarat Government passed a rule in the 1990s making it mandatory for industries and employers to give 85% of jobs to local people. It was never implemented in reality. Such restrictive moves hurt both the State and particularly migrants who go looking for jobs as this piece, published in 2018, by Indira Hirway points out.

Gujarat is one of the top States in India that receive migrant workers, largely temporary and seasonal, on a large scale. These workers are from Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and even from as far as Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Assam and Karnataka. Employers send contractors to distant unexplored places to gather labour at the lowest possible wage rate. Surprisingly, the Gujarat Government has no data on/estimates of migrant workers coming to Gujarat. Informally, the figures are estimated to be between 40 lakh to one crore.

Segmenting the labour market and creating a separate labour market for migrant workers who are easy to exploit – has been a common strategy of employers across India. The pathetic conditions migrant workers face have been widely documented. They earn low wages, work very long hours without any overtime benefits, and are almost without any leave or social protection. Lakhs of unskilled and migrant workers live on worksites in makeshift huts (usually made of tin sheets) or on roads, slums and in illegal settlements. They are neither able to save much to improve their conditions back in their home States nor save enough to live comfortably in Gujarat. They go back home only once or twice to celebrate festivals. Semi-skilled workers with some education and skills (such as those in diamond cutting and polishing units, power looms and factories) get slightly higher wages and earn some leave. However, these workers are also exploited in multiple ways and are mostly unprotected. Factory owners, employers and traders are only too happy with such a situation as they earn huge profits from wage labour exploitation.

#### **Embers of resentment**

Local workers resent the presence of migrant workers who they feel take away their jobs in factories and other places on account of being cheap labour. The recent attacks on migrant labour after an incident in Gujarat late last month, involving the sexual assault of a 14-month-old girl, allegedly by a migrant labourer from Bihar, appears to be have been a consequence of this resentment. Many migrant workers have now rushed to their home States out of fear despite several local people having been taken into custody on the charge of inciting violence against migrant workers. There have been reports of an estimated 60,000 to more than a lakh workers leaving the State. Those who have stayed back

Segmenting the labour market and creating a separate labour market for migrant workers – who are easy to exploit – has been a common strategy of employers across India

now live under constant fear. The exodus is cause for concern as it is bound to impact Gujarat's growth and create resentment among factory owners and other employers, especially at a time when the general election is drawing close.

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani has blamed the Opposition for inciting locals to push out migrants while the latter have accused him of not stopping the migration. Some have even demanded his resignation. The anger on both the sides is essentially more out of fear that losing cheap labour will be at the cost of Gujarat's prosperity than out of genuine concern for the welfare of migrant workers. The signals from the top leadership of the Chief Minister's party are "to bring the situation back to normal". This would also avert a crisis in the migrants' home States, which would have to cope with an army of the

unemployed. All this shows the utter indifference of States to the well being of migrant workers and their rights.

### Only on paper

Under the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act and other labour laws, migrant workers in Gujarat are legally entitled to all their basic labour rights. These include minimum wages, regular wage payment, regular working hours, overtime payment, and decent working and living conditions. Under the same Act, the Governments of the States from where migrant workforce originate are expected to issue licences to contractors who take workers away, register such workers and also monitor their working and living conditions in other States. But most State Governments remain indifferent to these laws. Gujarat has taken a few steps but these are far from adequate. The political impulse has been to maintain status quo – the continuation of the situation where migrant workers are exploited.

The Gujarat Government passed a rule in the 1990s making it mandatory for industries and employers in Gujarat to give 85% of jobs to local people. This rule was never really implemented in reality, but watered down by the State Government in its subsequent industrial policies, as new investors did not like any such restrictions. Now there is a move in the State to introduce a law for industries and investors in Gujarat which reserves 80% of labour jobs for State domiciles and at least 25% for local workers. But those behind the idea are perhaps fully aware of the futility of such a move. As long as there are huge surpluses from the labour of migrant workers, employers will have no incentive in hiring local workers. The objective of such a move is to perhaps contain the anger of local workers - at least till the 2019 election.

In the end, the real solution to this issue would be to enforce all relevant labour laws for migrant workers so that segmentation of the labour market becomes weak, and workers (local and migrant) get a fair and equal deal.

■ Name the person

seated third from the

right in the photo

which features the

Government led by

Namboodiripad in

1957. The person,

in major judicial

reforms, including

the Public Interest

Litigation concept,

November 15 and

lived till the ripe age

was born on

the then Communist Party of India's E.M.S.

who was instrumental

Cabinet of the

#### **KEYWORD**

# The paradox of value

Why are diamonds much more expensive than water?

PRASHANTH PERUMAL

Also known as the diamond-water paradox, the paradox of value describes the vast difference seen in the prices of certain essential goods and non-essential goods. Many goods and services that are essential to human life have a much lower price in a market economy than other goods and services that are not so essential. For example, water that is essential for human existence sells at a price that is just a fraction of the price of diamond, which is a luxury item that is not essential for human existence.

The paradox of value has also been used to describe the vast difference in the wages of essential workers such as nurses and farmers and that of others such as CEOs of companies, who are considered by many to be nonessential workers. This paradox has been cited by many critics of the market economy, who argue that it is an unfair economic system that leads to inequality among different populations.

The paradox of value is often used in discussions on the theory of value to elaborate the concept of marginal utility and how the use value of an object can differ quite a lot from its exchange value. Many economists have tried to explain the paradox.

Some of them such as Adam Smith, who was a proponent of the labour theory of value, believed that the paradox of value can be explained by the difference in the amount of labour that it takes to produce a good or service.

### Marginal revolution

The marginal revolution in economics in the latter half of the 19th century, which is attributed to the contributions made by Austrian economist Carl Menger, English economist William Stanley Jevons and French economist Leon Walras, completely changed the way economists explained the paradox of value.

These economists, who adhered to the theory of marginalism, argued that the price or the exchange value of goods and services is not determined by their simple use value. Instead, it is determined by their marginal use value (or utility) to the buyer. This is the most widely accepted resolution of the paradox of value among economists.

The most appealing demonstration of the theory of marginal utility was offered by Austrian economist Eugen von Bohm-Bawerk in his 1889 book *The Positive Theory of Capital*. He used the example of a farmer who had a total of five sacks of corn to use until next season. The farmer values the first two sacks of corn the most as they would serve as his food and help him stay alive until next season. He then plans to use the three other sacks of corn for other purposes in descending order of importance, namely to feed his poultry, to make alcohol and the final sack of corn to feed the parrots that amuse him.

### Least urgent desires

Bohm-Bawerk explained that the price that the farmer would be ready to pay for any sack of grain would depend on how much he valued feeding his parrots, which happens to be the least urgent of his desires. It would not depend, he argued, on the value that the farmer places on his life, which is his most urgent desire.

The farmer, in other words, would be willing to pay a very high price for a sack of corn only when the supply of corn is severely limited by a famine or other crises. So, in the context of the prices of diamond and water that are vastly different, it is the limited supply of diamonds that makes them sell at a much higher market price than water, which is relatively more abundant in its availability.

### THE DAILY QUIZ

### Here's a quiz based on events that occurred and personalities who were born in the month of November

During the tenure of this freedom fighter as the Union Education Minister post-Independence, India's first IIT was set up in Kharagpur in 1951. Name the person who was born on November 11.

2 November 7 is remembered as the day when the Russian Revolution culminated with the Bolshevik party taking power. This resulted in the overthrow of a Government led by a liberal Russian who fled the country after the Revolution and spent most of the rest of his life as a scholar at Hoover Institution in Stanford. Name him.

November 26 is observed as the 'Constitution Day' because the final draft of the Indian Constitution was released by the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, on that day in 1949. Who was the Constitutional Advisor, an eminent jurist, who prepared the first rough draft of the Constitution and was acknowledged for this work by Dr. Ambedkar?

A member of the Constituent Assembly, he went on to be part of the State Reorganisation Commission whose report in 1953 ultimately paved the way to the creation of five new States in November 1956. Name this person.

**5** November 26, 2008 is remembered for the horrific terror attacks in Mumbai. This police officer (assistant sub-inspector), who was instrumental in capturing the terrorist Ajmal Kasab but succumbed to death while doing so, was posthumously awarded the Ashok Chakra. Name him.



Please send your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in
Answers to the previous day's quiz on flags:

1. Mozambique, 2. Denmark whose flag is called the 'Danneborg', 3. The Sun, 4. The original 13 States of the union, 5. The

Philippines, 6. Cyprus, 7. It is made of two stacked two triangles rather than being rectangle or square.

**Early Birds** Anjali Roy | Aditya Pratap Singh | Vijay Kumar A. | Nirbhay Verma | Amiya Ghosh ■ CC BY-SA 2.5| WIKIPEDIA



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CM YK